

BSU Elects Officers



State Baptist Student Union officers elected at the recent Spring Leadership Training Conference at Camp Garaywa are (left to right): Alon Bee, Jr., a student at University of Mississippi, president; Mark True, Pearl River Junior College, executive council member; Don Dent, Mississippi College, vice president; Sheree Tynes, Mississippi University for Women, executive council member; Renelda Pharr, Blue Mountain College, secretary; Sharon Wilson, Clark College, executive council member; and Ircel Harrison, campus minister at Mississippi State University, director-adviser. Not pictured are Scott McLellan, associate pastor and minister of youth, FBC Cleveland, pastor-adviser; and Horace C. Holmes, president of Southwest Junior College, faculty adviser.

Churches Oppose Forced Financial Disclosure

WASHINGTON (BP) — Legislation currently before a House subcommittee requiring financial disclosure by all organizations soliciting charitable contributions by mail is unacceptable to religious organizations, according to testimony by several religious spokesmen here.

"We find H. R. 41 unacceptable because . . . it violates the constitutional requirement that church and state be separated," John W. Baker, associate director in charge of research services of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, told the Postal Personnel and Modernization Subcommittee of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee.

U. S. Rep. Charles H. Wilson (D-Calif.), chairman of the subcommittee, re-introduced the measure after it failed to reach the House floor in the last Congress. The bill "would require organizations soliciting charitable contributions from the public to disclose at the time of solicitation some basic information concerning how the money collected is actually spent," Wilson said.

Baker asserted: "H. R. 41's provisions for the establishment of uniform accounting systems and the development of procedures to assure compliance with the act would, beyond all reasonable doubt, result in excessive government entanglement with religion."

Edwin Dill, a Catholic priest and president of the National Catholic Development Conference, an organization of religious and charitable fund raisers, echoed Baker's concern over excessive government entanglement with religion.

"The NCDC is opposed in principle to legislation in any way imposing itself upon religious fund raising. This reflects our deep belief that almsgiving and alms-asking are essentially acts of religion," Dill told the subcommittee.

"Our belief that fund raising in the name of religion should be completely unencumbered . . . is based purely and simply on the traditional attitude of the government vis-a-vis religion, an attitude which we believe leans firmly on constitutional guarantees," Dill continued.

Dill referred specifically to the Pallofines, a Catholic order recently disciplined by the church for abuses in fund raising. Despite such abuses, Dill said, he does not favor legislation which would interfere in the personal act of charitable giving.

"There are, I believe, more than sufficient forces at work both to expose and to remedy aberrations in fund raising and to protect the interests of both

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Easter Service Marred By Suicide At Pulpit

By Tim Nicholas
BLOXI — An Easter Sunday television broadcast of First Baptist Church's morning worship service was halted only moments before an intruder mounted the speaker's platform and fatally shot himself at the pulpit.

Pastor Frank Gunn had just begun preaching to a packed auditorium on the fact that persons do not know how much time they have left to live.

Referring to recent plane crashes, he asked the congregation, "What would you do if you had only several minutes to live?"

Three minutes later, a gunman lay mortally wounded on the church floor. Because of the sermon topic, several members believed the drama was staged. "One lady was even laughing" when it ended, said church audio controller, Larry Patterson, who viewed the drama from the sound booth.

Gunn and other witnesses pieced together the events. Just as Gunn was beginning his sermon, usher Quentin Hengen, tried to stop a man, later identified by police as Ford Dawson, a retired Air Force major, from bringing his nine-year-old son's dog into the church.

The man insisted on coming in with the dog and placed a gun to Hengen's head, threatening to kill him if he didn't let him in. Hengen stood in the door and slapped at the gun, causing it to discharge into the door facing.

This sound sent the choir and congregation to the floor, hiding behind pews, crawling out doors. Pastor Gunn moved to the side of the rostrum.

Dawson brought the dog to the pulpit (Continued on page 2)

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia—Samuel R. J. Cannata Jr. of Texas, Southern Baptist medical missionary to Ethiopia, is being held for questioning by government officials here following a search of his home in the remote town of Alem Ketema April 3.



Mrs. Cannata. Political developments in recent months have resulted in house-to-house searches

being conducted by government troops. The government has told newsmen that the search is directed primarily at the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency and three other groups, which it blames for a wave of assassinations and turmoil in this country.

Mrs. Cannata, the former Virginia Currey of Mississippi, told Davis L. Saunders, Southern Baptist Foreign Missionary Board area secretary for Eastern and Southern Africa, that her husband "is being treated very nicely" while being detained by government authorities.



Samuel R. J. Cannata Jr. (center), a Southern Baptist missionary doctor stationed in Ethiopia since 1968, checks a patient in a health center in Mehal Meda. This patient was flown in from Gishay. Dr. Cannata's home was searched April 3, and Ethiopian government officers took Cannata and his family into Addis Ababa for questioning. His family was released the next day but Cannata has been detained.

"He has made a lot of new friends," she said, "and has had opportunities to share his Christian faith."

Edwin L. Mason, a lay volunteer working as business manager for Baptist missionaries here, said that Cannata reported by radio at 7 a.m. Sunday morning (April 3) that the family's house was being searched. When missionaries here tried to contact Cannata at 5 p.m. (the next regular time planned for short-wave radio communication between missionaries), there was no answer.

The missionary doctor, his wife and their three children were brought here in their mission car accompanied by armed escort. Alem Ketema is 160 kilometers north of here (about 100 miles, or about a seven-hour drive because of extremely rough roads).

The family was held here overnight under house arrest at a Southern Baptist guesthouse before being taken to the police station. Mrs. Cannata and

the children were released, but Cannata was detained.

Mason said officials at the U. S. Embassy here are working to obtain Cannata's release.

"All of us are just praying that the Lord will show us what kind of victory he has in mind with this experience," Mason said.

Three Southern Baptist missionary families who live in outlying areas are temporarily remaining in Addis Ababa. Mr. and Mrs. Ronald D. Bodenhamer, who had been engaged in agricultural work in the Menjir-Shenkora district about 40 miles east of this city, have returned here.

The Ethiopian government advised two other families in Tsai Tsina, about a seven-hour drive northeast of here, also to return. They are Mr. and Mrs. Jerry P. Bedsole and Mr. and Mrs. V. Lynn Groce. Bedsole, a veterinarian, and Groce, an agriculturalist, have

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Prayer Meet Stopped For Crash Ministry

By Robert LaFavre

DALLAS, Ga. (BP) — A prayer meeting here was interrupted as participants rushed to pull charred bodies from wreckage and lift injured persons into emergency vehicles following the crash of a DC 9 jetliner that claimed the lives of at least 71 persons.

Eight of those who died included local residents—all Baptists and their young children.

At 4:18 p.m., on Monday, Apr. 4, the Huntsville, Ala. - to - Atlanta Southern Airways jetliner carrying 82 passengers crashed into the small community of New Hope, north of the small community of Dallas, Ga.

Probable cause of the crash, according to a spokesman for the airline, was a violent hailstorm that caused the jet's engine to "flame out."

As the plane sped to the ground, it clipped a telephone pole some 50 yards from New Hope Baptist Church, where four church leaders were praying.

Fearing that the roar of the descending plane was a tornado whipping through the stormy skies, the four fled to the basement. When they emerged, a scene of horror spread before them.

Paul Jackson, interim pastor of New Hope Church and one of those at the prayer meeting, ran through rain to the crash site and began giving aid to victims.

While he joined other community residents and those who rushed to help from around the state, the pastor and members of nearby Dallas, First Baptist Church, launched an emergency ministry to the passengers' families.

First Baptist Dallas' pastor Clarence G. Cole rushed to the local hospital, where he comforted the injured, offering encouragement and prayer.

Moving to the Dallas church building, he began contacting and organizing church members. The word spread rapidly after his first few calls, and

First Baptist members started phoning Cole, offering to help.

All night, every light in the Dallas church blazed as members offered food and comfort to crash victims' families from Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia.

As families and friends of passengers arrived in Dallas and went to the police station for help, they were directed to First Baptist Church. The congregation became a clearing house for information and directions.

Church members took the passengers' families into their homes for the night, and other members worked at a temporary morgue set up in a nearby building. They used church equipment for emergency services.

When dawn broke at the crash site, New Hope Church members followed Jackson's leadership and began three days of around-the-clock ministry.

Hundreds of law enforcement officials, utility company workers, rescue and civil defense teams, newsmen and crash investigators remained on the

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Wakefield Encouraged By Visa Extension

RICHMOND (BP) — Recent developments have produced "cautious optimism" for the possibility of future service by Southern Baptist missionaries in Malaysia.

Reports earlier this year indicated that all Southern Baptist missionaries would have to leave East Malaysia by mid-1977, but the Charles H. Morris family recently received permission to stay another year, according to William R. Wakefield, the Foreign Mission Board's area secretary for Southeast Asia.

And in West Malaysia, two more Southern Baptist couples—Mr. and Mrs. Don Crane and Mr. and Mrs. Stockwell Sears—were granted visas to assist in training national Baptist leaders.

The one-year extension for the Morris family came after the East Malaysia Baptist Convention appealed the decision of the government of the State of Sarawak not to renew visas for Southern Baptist missionaries.

"On the basis of an appeal from the Baptist convention for their need of continued training for leaders, the government has graciously granted a year's extension to the Morris' visa," Wakefield said. Morris has been active in Theological Education by Extension in Malaysia.

In West (Peninsula) Malaysia, some 400 miles across the South China Sea from East Malaysia, the visa situation appears much better. Mr. and Mrs. Crane, involved in TEE, and Mr. and Mrs. Sears, who will work at the Baptist Theological Seminary, Penang, were granted visas and will join the three couples now in missions work there—Mr. and Mrs. Roger Capps and the Jack Shellys in Penang, and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Smith in Kuantan. Two other couples are applying for visas to re-enter West Malaysia at the end of their furloughs.

West Malaysian authorities seem to recognize the need for missionaries to train national leaders, Wakefield said.

Missionaries Make Changes In Troubled African Areas

RICHMOND (BP) — Adapting to meet Africa's changing conditions, Southern Baptist missionaries have evacuated from one area in Rhodesia but are returning in a limited way to work in Uganda.

Davis L. Saunders, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's area secretary for eastern and southern Africa, described the changes as he returned from a three-week tour of his area.

Political activity in the Sessami area of northwestern Rhodesia led three Southern Baptist missionaries to close the mission station in Gokwe, Saunders said. Missionary nurse Carolyn Roberson of Texas and Mr. and Mrs. Karl D. Babb of Florida have left Gokwe and will operate out of neighboring Sanyati. The Babbes, appointed for religious education work, have been in language study in Sessami.

A Missionary Aviation Fellowship couple at Gokwe, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Steiger, also evacuated. Saunders reported. Steiger flew out the MAF plane which had been used by Southern Baptists to operate clinics in the Sessami area. The clinics will still be operated from a base at the Baptist hospital at

Sanyati, with the plane also being based there.

In Uganda, Southern Baptist missionaries have returned, where possible, in order to keep the door open for future work and to encourage the Baptist people there, Davis said.

G. Webster Carroll of West Virginia, one of three missionary men who went back into Uganda on March 13, has been given a special three-month pass to remain in the country while his new work permit is being processed. Carroll's wife and children are still in Kenya.

Harry B. Garvin of Texas came back out of Uganda on March 17 but plans to go in and out of Uganda from time to time to assist in work in Soroti. He and his family are temporarily meeting a need for missionary personnel in Embu, Kenya.

Mr. and Mrs. James L. Rice of Virginia, whose work permit from the Uganda government is good for another two years, were scheduled to return from Kenya in late March to continue their work in Jinja. Rice is business manager and treasurer for the Uganda missionaries.

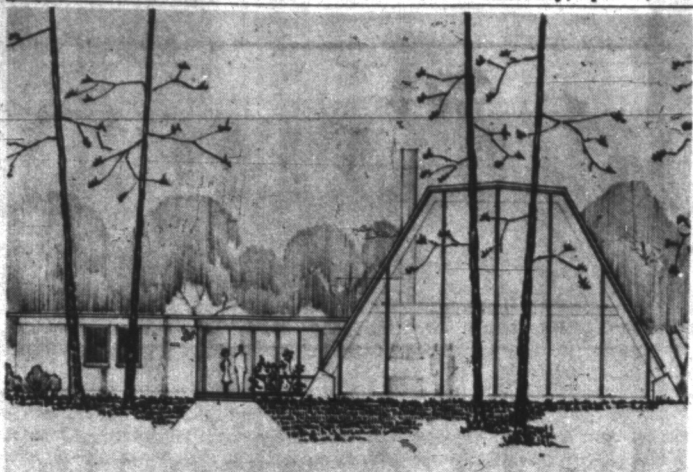
The missionaries reported that wor-

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BOLD BELIEVERS IN GIVING



Through the Cooperative Program



New BSU Center Planned

A \$200,000 Baptist Student Center is being planned for Southwest Mississippi Junior College in Summit. The B.S.U. Area Advisory Committee, the governing body of the Baptist Student work on campus, recently approved the plans submitted by a special Baptist Student Center Building Committee. Both committees are made up of laymen and pastors from Pike, Mississippi, and Waltham Associations.

A Finance Committee, chaired by Rex Pigott of Tylertown, is being organized to solicit funds from Baptist Churches and individuals in the surrounding area.

The proposed building will include an assembly area which will seat 224 for meetings and worship and will seat 192 for banquets. A circular fireplace

and recreation area will be located on the first level. A library, conference room, and prayer room will be located on the second level. Adjacent to the A-frame assembly area will be the adjoining one story structure which will house the offices, work room, storage area, and kitchen area.

Mrs. W. H. Soape, Southwest B.S.U. Director, is under the direction of the Department of Student Work, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Ralph Winders is the Student Department Director.

Larry W. Fields, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Summit and Pastor-Advisor of the Southwest B.S.U., stated that both committees voted to have one-half, or \$100,000 in hand, before construction could begin.

Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



NASHVILLE — Cassette tape recordings of Convention Uniform Sunday School lessons are now available from the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board to assist blind persons in individual Bible study. Two tapes, both entitled "Points for Emphasis," are produced quarterly by the Broadman sales department of the Sunday School Board. The content for both tapes is taken from the book, *Points for Emphasis*, by William J. Fallis, chief editor of general religious books in the Broadman products department at the board.

Harrisburg, Pa. (RNS) — Legislation that would exempt churches and synagogues from the anti-billboard laws governing federal-aided highways in Pennsylvania has been introduced in the State Senate.

Bucharest, Romania (BP) — The Baptist World Alliance (BWA), along with the European Baptist Federation, is seeking a minimum of \$200,000 for Romania reconstruction, following the devastating earthquake of March 4, Chester J. Jump, Jr., chairman of the BWA relief and development committee, has announced. One of the two

buildings of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Bucharest — a gift of Southern Baptists in 1924 — has been severely damaged and is no longer in use. Nine Baptist churches of Romania have been damaged to the extent that they may have to be demolished and replaced, according to officials of the Baptist Union of Romania.

Wake Forest, N. C. (BP) — Trustees of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary voted here to launch a fund raising drive to secure from \$300,000 to \$500,000 for a professorship in evangelism and adopted a \$2,394,288 budget for 1977-78. They also voted to be personally responsible for giving or generating at least \$100,000 of the amount for the professorship, which was approved in 1976, when trustees accepted a \$100,000 gift for it. Other than small fees, no tuition is charged by the seminary. The trustees voted an increase in the seminary's matriculation fee from \$100 to \$150 per semester — an increase which will be made jointly with the other five Southern Baptist theological seminaries.

Bangkok, Thailand — Hundreds of letters have been received by the Baptist Mass Communications Department here from persons requesting Christian literature and asking questions. These letters are a result of a 30-minute television program on the meaning of Christmas which was broadcast on Christmas day last year. The program included Christmas music followed by a message by Wan Petchsongkram, president of the Thailand Baptist Theological Seminary.

NAIROBI, Kenya — Orville Boyd Jenkins, director of Baptist Communications here, was elected interim executive director of Afrimedia, a Kenya-based television and motion picture ministry of which Baptist Communications is a founding member. Jenkins is a Southern Baptist missionary from Oklahoma. Also elected to the Afrimedia staff was Van C. Payne, Southern Baptist missionary journeyman from Mississippi. Payne will serve as producer in charge of the television division of the agency.

"Each is free to be his own man and bear his own witness."

Requests also have been made for student workers, youth workers, agriculturalists and literacy workers in both areas. West Africa needs mass media workers and also social workers to go out to help improve living conditions.

But the bulk of the need is for general evangelists — people to get the word out, the two men stressed.

"This is the routine, old workhorse man that makes the whole thing go," Mills said. "The difficulty is how to emphasize the spiritual needs as dramatically as you can the physical needs."

Prayer Meet Stopped

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scene over a prolonged period.

The church purchased large amounts of food which members prepared in the church kitchen. Also using food brought in by other members, they fed a steady stream of tired, cold, wet and hungry men and women.

A young deacon at New Hope Church, James Cole (no relation to Clarence Cole), took off from his work to serve food and minister to crash-site workers.

The son of an Alabama Baptist pastor, James Cole noted that this ministry to hundreds of strangers gave him and his fellow members opportunity to witness of God's love. The crash stunned local residents like James Cole. People they had known were killed.

One of the ground victims, Mrs. Faye Griffin, had been a member of

the youth Sunday School class James Cole taught before she had married. She and her husband, who was not killed, were active members of New Hope.

Besides Mrs. Griffin and her six-month-old son, two of her husband's sisters and their three children — two of them infants — were also killed.

Their car was at a service station / grocery store when hit by the plane and crushed. Exploding gas tanks at the service station engulfed them in flames.

A short distance down the road, a 71-year-old woman was killed in her front yard. All of the adult victims were members of New Hope or two area Baptist churches, High Shoals and Northside. Funeral services for seven of them were held at New Hope Church.

Wake Forest Trustees Comment On Flynt Furor

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. (BP) — The board of trustees of Wake Forest University, in a regular meeting here, has commented on the furor surrounding a recent appearance by convicted pornographer Larry Flynt on the Baptist school's campus.

On Feb. 28, Flynt, publisher of "Hustler" magazine, appeared on campus, at the invitation of the Men's Residence Council, to speak and receive the small student group's "Man of the Year Award."

The award was later described as "tongue in cheek" and "half-humorous" in intent by council President Angelo Monaco, who apologized to the administration for embarrassment caused by the invitation. The invitation was made by the group last October, before Flynt's conviction on obscenity charges, and without the knowledge of the administration, which learned of it about three days before Flynt was to appear.

The next evening, after Flynt had addressed 350 students, Coy Privette, president of the North Carolina Baptist Convention, appeared in the second phase of the two-part debate to speak and be honored by the student group as "Alumnus of the Year." Addressing about 50 persons, he rebutted Flynt's point of view.

The trustees commended Wake Forest President James Ralph Scales for "his forthright public interpretation of this whole issue... Privette... for his clear presentation of the Christian ethic on pornography, and the Biblical Recorder, our Baptist state journal, for reporting this event in fair perspective."

The statement expressed concern for the "growing scourge of hard core pornography" and said it degrades and brutalizes human personality and values.

Oscar Byrd Day At Clear Branch

Clear Branch Church, Rankin County, is honoring Oscar L. Byrd and his wife on the third Sunday in April, the 17th. That Sunday has been designated as Oscar L. Byrd Day.

Elton Barlow, who was one of the men ordained under Byrd's pastoral leadership, will preach. Sunday School will begin at 10 and preaching at 11. Dinner will be served on the grounds. Singing and fellowship will be features of the afternoon, according to Roger Lee, pastor.

Waco, Tex. (RNS) — Evangelist Billy Graham says the opportunities for developing audio and video cassettes to expand his ministry led him switching from his long-time publisher, Doubleday, to Word, Inc. here. Under the agreement, which was formally announced March 24, Word will publish the evangelist's future books and tapes. His next book, to be called *How to Be Born Again*, is planned for this summer. Another dealing with the Holy Spirit, will be published next year.

Tent Ministry Continues Despite Some Opposition

By Pat Muse

QUITO, Ecuador (BP) — Despite opposition in several towns, a Baptist tent ministry in Ecuador has resulted in almost 700 people making public professions of faith in Jesus Christ during the past eight months.

In Tambo, a mob attacked the tent on the revival's opening day, March 20, and told the Baptists to leave or there would be bloodshed. The meetings continued as scheduled for four days, with protection by armed guards.

But the revival was then closed because of the difficulty in holding religious services under these circumstances and because of plans for a street fiesta, which would attract thousands of rural Indians. The governor asked the tent team to leave before they came, fearing serious trouble might occur.

The Baptists have repaired and re-equipped the tent. The latest evangelistic campaigns were scheduled to begin April 2 in Ecuador's most populous province, Guayas.

Converts Baptized

Since August, 17 evangelistic campaigns have utilized the 40-by-80-foot canvas tent. Many of the converts are now baptized church members, and others are studying in doctrinal classes. Lay training classes are being conducted for emerging leaders in new mission stations.

The tent evangelism ministry has contributed to church growth throughout Ecuador. Congregations of Baptists and other evangelical believers continue to spring up throughout the Indian cultures of Ecuador "as the spirit of God moves across the land touching thousands of lives," missionaries report.

Nine all-Indian congregations have sprung up among Ecuadorian Baptists. A little more than two years ago, only one Indian Baptist church existed.

In several places, people opposing evangelistic efforts have attempted to prevent the setting up of the tent or tried to burn it. Southern Baptist missionary Gerald W. Doyle, who works with the congregations in the Canar-Tambo area, reported that adequate protection had been provided for the Tambo evangelistic campaign after the initial attack. However, every night agitators milled around the plaza, the site of open-air services, raising fear of further trouble.

Two denunciations of the mob action were written to the governor of the province after the tent was attacked. But the three Roman Catholic priests, whom area people had identified as leaders of the mob, denied having any part in the attack.

News media have given publicity to these incidents, and Ecuadorians of different faiths have been outraged by them. Baptists are praying on behalf of their fellow-believers who live daily with persecution.

Astonished At Opposition

In general, people in these two towns are astonished at the violent opposition of religious leaders and their followers against the evangelistic campaigns. It has aroused people to investigate evangelical Christianity. Many have come to the tent during the daytime to talk and ask for tracts, both in Spanish and Quechua. The willingness of the believers to stand firm in their faith and even suffer for it has not gone unnoticed by the people there.

Some eight persons made public professions of faith in Canar, where 15 older children also accepted Christ after private witnessing. Four persons made private decisions in Tambo.

Edgar Andrade, a rural school teacher, made a profession of faith. Afterwards, the parents of his students told him they no longer wanted him to teach their children. Some have threatened to kill him. Sometimes, when he comes to his classroom on Monday mornings, he finds ugly threats written on the chalkboard. He and other believers in this area know what it means to suffer for Christ.

Second Time

The attack on the tent revival in Tambo was the second time Baptists

had faced opposition there. In October 1975, a mob attacked Southern Baptist missionary Archie V. Jones and a group of worshippers in a home. Jones got away and went for help. He returned with police in time to keep the mob from burning the house. The attack left one man seriously hurt.

The tent team also met opposition in San Francisco de Conocoto. Even after they secured legal permits to erect the tent on a soccer field, the vice-president of the town council led a group armed with sticks and rocks to keep the tent from being set up. One church member was injured.

After the incident, the site of the meeting was changed to the church grounds, even though the location was not as good. In the first service, the 18-year-old son of the leader of the opposition made a profession of faith.

African Areas

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ship services at the Uganda Baptist churches are continuing without interference.

The three Southern Baptist couples serving in Uganda were out of the country in late February when Ugandan President Idi Amin ordered all Americans to report to him at a mass meeting. Later this meeting was postponed, then apparently canceled, but the Southern Baptist couples decided to remain temporarily in Kenya until the situation stabilized. Both the Carrolls and the Garvins have children attending school near Nairobi, Kenya.

Oppose Forced Disclosure

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the public and legitimate charities," Dill said. He cited the press, the Internal Revenue Service, statutes on postal fraud, and codes of ethics of religious and secular groups of fund raisers. Above these factors, he noted, "this one all-important fact: donations to charity are, by definition, freewill. There is no tax-like force compelling people to give."

Another issue the witnesses raised was the difficulty of adequately defining such terms as "membership" or "religion" in legislation.

The bill provides for the exemption of "any bona fide membership organization with respect to any solicitation for contributions by mail made by such organization exclusively to the members of such organization."

U. S. Rep. Trent Lott (R-Miss.) expressed his concern over the right of the federal government to mandate financial disclosure by churches. "I would probably be the one, or one of the ones, to offer an amendment to the bill exempting religious organizations," he said. "This is a serious First Amendment problem in my view. The track record of the federal government in the area of regulation is bad. It frequently becomes harassment."

Congressman Wilson opposes any exemptions, including religious organizations, as do most charitable organizations such as the American Lung Association, the National Kidney Foundation and others.

Both George F. Harkins, general secretary of the Lutheran Council in the U. S. A., and Baker expressed the fears of churches about regulations which would be created to enforce the bill. "Regulatory agencies often adopt elaborate and subtle definitions which go beyond the intent of Congress, even where the congressional intent is clear," Harkins noted.

Easter Service Marred

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and mumbled something about the Resurrection and about Easter, according to Gunn.

"Dawson told the congregation not to be afraid of him and turned to the choir saying he was not there to hurt anybody," said Gunn who tried to talk the man into putting the gun down.

Heart Attacks Hospitalize R. G. Lee

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP) — Robert G. Lee, 90-year-old former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, is "resting comfortably" in the cardiac care unit of Baptist Medical Center here after at least two heart attacks.

Lee, pastor emeritus of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, who still travels hundreds of miles each year preaching, had been scheduled to preach a four-day revival, April 3-6, at Oklahoma City's First Baptist Church. The pastor, Gene Garrison, stepped in to preach after Lee became ill.

According to reports, Lee had chest pains at his Memphis home on Friday, April 1, before leaving for Oklahoma City against his doctor's advice. He suffered at least two attacks after arriving in Oklahoma City, one in the hospital's cardiac care unit.

Earlier, doctors had listed his condition as "critical to grave," and called in members of his family from across the country. As of April 5, however, they upgraded his condition to "serious" and expressed some optimism.

Scarborough Recovering

Ben Scarborough, pastor of New Prospect Church in Lafayette Association, has had a mild heart attack. His condition is satisfactory, but he will be in the Calhoun County Hospital in Bruce, for another 3 weeks.

Some Tickets Available

Several tickets are still available for the banquet which kicks off the 1977 Mississippi Workshop on Youth Sunday School Work, April 29-30.

The banquet will feature Bill Baker, pastor of FBC, Clinton, as speaker and entertainer.

Reservations for the banquet (cost \$5.75), the workshop, and reduced rates at Jackson's Holiday Inn, North, site of the banquet and workshop, may be obtained from Larry Salter, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.



Odle Typewriters To College

A sizeable collection of vintage typewriters that were collected by Joe T. Odle, previous editor of the Baptist Record, over many years was turned over to Mississippi College upon Odle's retirement. The typewriters have been housed in permanent display cases in the Learning Resources Center at the College. The Odle family views the display in the photo above. They are Dr. and Mrs. Odle and Mrs. Roland Maddux, right, their daughter, who lives in Memphis. While the typewriters were on display in the offices of the Baptist Record they held great interest for visitors.



Baptist-Catholic Dialog

A Baptist-Catholic dialog took place recently in the Baptist Building at the initiation of the Catholic field representative for dialoging with Southern Baptists. He is Joe O'Donnell, left above, shown talking with J. Clark Hensley, executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission. O'Donnell was in Jackson for the annual Christian Life Commission-Seminar sponsored by the SBC Christian Life Commission. Other Baptist Building personalities participated in the dialog. O'Donnell reported that Catholics are moving forward in the ministry to people in need and are interested in what Baptists are doing. Hensley shared a brief statement of the total program of Mississippi Baptists and pointed out that it was an interesting experience of sharing feelings, answering and asking questions, and expressing mutual concerns for the hurts of people.

Evangelism

South Mississippi Conference

Area evangelism conferences will be held in South Mississippi May 9, May 10, and May 12. These will be at



Collum

Schilling is pastor.

May 9 will be in Wiggins, May 10 in Laurel, and May 12 in Brookhaven.

Roy Collum, director of the Evangelism Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, said the conferences will be held at night in order that not only pastors but also laymen, women, and young people can attend. The conferences will begin at 7:15 p.m. and conclude at 9:10 p.m.

The conference will open each evening with Bible study led by J. Roy McComb, pastor of First Baptist Church, Columbia.



McComb

Collum will speak on "Growth Evangelism in Your Church" including CARE revivals and crusades and witnessing preparation for adults and youth.

L. Gordon Sansing, pastor of Arrowood Baptist Church, Meridian, and former director of the Department of Evangelism, will speak each evening on "Power for Growth."

Music for all three conferences will be led by Hubert Greer, music evangelist of Brookhaven.

Collum pointed out that the Southern Baptist Convention's Bold Mission Thrust emphasis calls for the gospel to be made available to every person in the United States before the end of this



Sansing

decade. "That is only a little more than two years," he said, "and if it is accomplished we will need the help of many lay people and young people." He added, "The second facet of Bold Mission Thrust is to provide a new Testament fellowship for everyone in the nation by the end of this decade, and that will take the involvement of lay leaders. We must be ready to meet the challenge."

Single Adult Retreat Scheduled For Meridian

"Touch Life" will be the theme of a Single Adult Retreat to be held at the Holiday Inn Northeast, Meridian, MS., May 27 and 28, according to J. Clark Hensley, executive director, Christian Action Commission. The retreat for never marrieds and formerly marrieds is sponsored jointly by the Sunday School Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Bryant Cummings, director, and the Christian Action Commission.

Program personalities will include Macklyn Hubbell, pastor, First Baptist Church, Cleveland; James Travis, chaplain, University Medical Center, Jackson; B. J. Dean, Avocational Adult Worker, Mobile, AL; Martha Hines, Spartanburg, S.C.; Dan Grubb, chaplain, East Mississippi State Hospital, Meridian; J. Clark and Margaret Hensley, Cummings; Tim Holcomb, minister to Single Adults, First Baptist Church, Jackson; Mrs. Holcomb; Jackie Payne, Media Center director, Van Winkle Baptist Church, Jackson; Ann Alexander, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; and Lee Prince, pastor, Union Avenue Baptist Church, Memphis.

The program, which begins at 8 p.m. Friday, is scheduled to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Saturday. However, a Sunday Afterglow from 8:30-9:30 Sunday morning is planned for those who desire to stay over for this added feature.

Room reservations are to be made directly with Holiday Inn Northeast, Box 5497, Meridian, MS 39301 (Specify "for single retreat"). Room rates (per day): \$16 for a single room; \$21 for 2, 3 or 4 in a room. All participants will pay a retreat registration fee of \$9.50, which includes the Saturday luncheon and dinner fellowship meals.

No provision for child care will be made during the sessions.

Bible Conference Tapes Available

Cassette tapes of the 1977 Mississippi Bible Conference are available. Send your order to Wayne Long Taping Service, P. O. Box 145, Lambert, Mississippi 38643. The tapes are as follows:

For \$3.00 each: Carl Bates, "What the Bible Says About the Greatness of God"; Robert Naylor, "What the Bible Says About Reconciliation"; Ray Summers, "What the Bible Says About Rewards"; Landrum Leavell, "What the Bible Says About Christ the Son of God"; Clyde Francisco, "What the Bible Says About the Beginning."

For \$6.00 each (2 tapes): Grace Chavis, "Isaac and Rebekah"; James Travis, "Our Reconciling God"; Herman Milner, "Elisha"; Dan Morton, "Daniel".

Fort Worth (BP) — Approval of a record budget for 1977-78 and groundbreaking ceremonies for a new physical fitness center highlighted a two-day meeting here of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary board of trustees.

The trustees also approved additions to the faculty, agreed to open a third off-campus study center, and established a new chair of instruction among other actions. The regular budget of \$6,396,434 for 1977-78 is a 13 percent increase over the current budget. Of the new budget, 74 percent will go to instructional needs, 14 percent to administration and 11 percent for the school's physical plant. In a related move, the board agreed to participate with three other Southern Baptist seminaries to offer doctor of ministry seminars in the Memphis, Tenn., area. The program is expected to begin in the spring, 1978.

FBC Tupelo Names Pastor

First Baptist Church of Tupelo announces that William H. Rittenhouse will become its pastor in May.



Rittenhouse, a Macon, Ga., native, has served pastorate at Southside Baptist Church, Miami, Fla.; Sylvan Hills Church, Atlanta, Ga.; Roswell St. Church, Marietta, Ga.; and Nassau Bay Church, Houston, Tex.

He is coming to FBC Tupelo from the presidency of High Flight Foundation of Colorado Springs, Col. This is a non-profit Christian foundation to extend the ministry of a group of former astronauts, including James Irwin.

He served as a bomber pilot in WWII and was a prisoner of war in Rumania for a year.

The interim pastor for First Baptist is Jerry Vardaman of the Cobb Institute of Archaeology at Mississippi State University.

He will arrive in Tupelo May 8 with his wife, the former Nell Crider of Milan, Tenn., and Ft. Myers, Fla.

WMU

First State Acteens Conference Planned

"This is Our Day" will be the theme for the first Mississippi State Acteens Conference, April 22-24, First Baptist Church, Gulfport. This meeting is being planned and sponsored by Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union, directed by Marilyn Hopkins, Acteens Consultant.

The program will begin 8:00 p.m. Friday evening with Danny Cook, minister of music and youth, Grace Memorial Baptist Church, Gulfport, leading the Acteens and their leaders in singing the Acteens song, "This is Our Day."

Program personnel for this first weekend meeting of Acteens in Mississippi will focus on Acteens living their lives for Christ. It is her day — the Acteen — the day for her to recognize God's presence and purpose for her life then be able to share His love with others.

Special features of the program during the weekend will include Bible Study, spotlights on Mississippi Ac-

teens, encounters, mission tours, musical presentation, fun, missionaries and fellowship with other Acteens.

Those persons featured on the program will be: Beverly Sutton, National Acteens Consultant, Birmingham, WMU, SBC; Talitha Edwards, Acteen, First Grenada and member of the National Acteens Advisory Panel; Mrs. Barbara Joiner, Acteens leader and writer for ACCENT (the Acteens magazine), Columbiana, Ala.; Bill Duncan, pastor, FBC, Long Beach; Mrs. Indy Whitten, missionary, Spain; Paul and Fran Vandercook, missionaries, Mississippi; J. W. Brister, director of missions, Gulf Coast association; Frances Shaw, BYW Consultant, Mississippi WMU, Jackson, and R. T. Buckley, Missionary, Bangladesh.

The program will begin with registration in the church foyer Friday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. and conclude following the 9:30 a.m. worship period on Sunday.

Publicity and registration information have been mailed to all associational and local Acteens leadership. The registration fee is \$3.00 and is to be sent to the WMU Office, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Mississippi 39205. The deadline for registration is April 20. During the weekend each person will have personal expenses of 4 meals and 2 nights of lodging in a motel. Suggested motels were listed in the registration material, and some homes are available for a few Acteens and their leaders on a first come basis by the WMU of Gulfcoast Association. For additional information please write to the Mississippi WMU Office.

The Missions Task Attention, VBS Worker

By John Alexander, Director, Stewardship Dept., MBCB

Vacation Bible School time is not always an easy time but it is some of the most rewarding time one can spend with young people. These study and fun-packed days have planted precious seed in the hearts of millions whose lives have been shaped thereby.

One thing that still remains vividly in the mind of the writer from VBS days many years ago was the emphasis on missions. Perhaps my earliest impressions of God's will for my life was experienced there. Several valuable aids for mission education are available to workers requesting them. They should be ordered free from: STEWARDSHIP, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205 (Phone: 354-3704).

"What is the Cooperative Program?" is a folder that provides a wealth of information about our main channel of mission support.

ROPE OF SAND — a 26 minute color motion picture presenting the history and development of the Cooperative Program. (Free)

BORN TO SERVE — a 34 minute color motion picture containing music by the Centurymen and portraying missions biblically and historically. (Free)

THE WHALE THAT CAME TO MISSISSIPPI — a 28 minute color motion picture about missions in Mississippi filmed on location in the state. (Free)

As a VBS worker, you can make the Cooperative Program come alive for your pupils. Please let me suggest ways to aid you in this opportunity:

(1) Help your pupils to decide that the VBS Mission Offering they bring will go through the Cooperative Program.

(2) Explain what the Cooperative Program is. Each new generation must learn this information for itself.

(3) Help your pupils know what mission ministries are supported regularly through the Cooperative Program.

(4) Emphasize the Cooperative Program giving of your own church. Show them how their weekly gifts can help regardless of size.

(5) Solicit a visit from a home or foreign missionary, if possible.

(6) Be sure to use the special Mission Features in your 1977 Pupil's Joint Service Book. Joint Service filmstrips are available through Baptist Book Stores.

(7) Secure free copies of the state Cooperative Program Budget brochure for distribution to your pupils.

(8) With small children, use "My Cooperative Program Coloring Book". Free copies are available as long as the supply lasts.

We Baptists have learned over the last fifty years that by pooling our resources we can do together what no one of us can do separately. Our team effort can be realized and utilized in reaching the world for Christ through the Cooperative Program.

It is important, therefore, that all VBS workers know as much as possible about the background and functioning of the Cooperative Program. Much of the teaching effort of the VBS will be lost unless we relate mission giving to the ministries that are made possible because of Cooperative Program giving.

Order your free helps today!

Family Money Management to Be Theme Of Christian Home Week Slated For May

NASHVILLE — Christian family money management is the central theme for this year's Family Enrichment Series books and Christian Home Week, May 1-8, according to Lee Sizemore, editor of the Family Enrichment Series in the family ministry department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Christian Home Week provides a time for church members to study and enrich family relationships. The special emphasis week has been an annual event since the early 1940's, but only since 1975 has the Sunday School Board provided special curriculum materials for churches to use during the week.

The Family Enrichment Series includes five books relating to Christian family money management for first graders through adults. Studies also are available for preschoolers and senior adults.

"This is the first time that a graded approach has been used toward Christian money management," Sizemore said.

Staying in the Black Financially, by John D. Bloskas, vice president of public relations, Southern Baptist Annuity Board, will cover principles of family money management through the use of case study examples and workbook exercises.

Ann Pollard Williamson, professor of education at North Texas State University, Denton, wrote: A Handbook on Money for Youth for older youth. In workbook format, the book helps teenagers develop skills in budgeting, spending, borrowing, and making the transition from the days of allowances to the days of being self-supporting and responsible for their own finances.

Dad, About My Allowance . . . by Tom Clark, youth materials editor in the Sunday School department at the

Sunday School Board, was written for younger youth. When Clark told his family that he had turned down an offer to write a book about allowances for children, his junior high son said that was a good idea because Clark didn't know anything about the subject anyway. Clark accepted the assignment the next day.

If I Had a Money Tree was written for older children by Robert G. Fulbright, director of the Bible Teaching Division of the Sunday School Board and previously supervisor of the children's section, Sunday School department and manager of the Broadman products department. The book discusses the use of money and Christian stewardship on the level of the 9-11 year-old.

The book for younger children, My Family's Money, was written by Louise Caldwell, who has written for first and second grade Bible curriculum. The book will help younger children understand how their family's money is earned, spent, borrowed and lent.

Life in the Senior Years, by Adelle Carlsoff, is for senior adults and is a large-print book, a first for the family ministry department. Miss Carlsoff is a senior adult ministry consultant in the family ministry department. The book was written to assist senior adults in meeting their developmental needs for financial planning, housing, socialization and other aspects of senior adulthood.

Doris Rouse, a kindergarten teacher for the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools, wrote My Family and Our Church for preschoolers. This book emphasizes the importance of the family's relationship to the local church.

All of the books in the Family Enrichment Series are available from Baptist Book Stores.



Christian Home Week is scheduled for May 1-8 in Southern Baptist churches this year.

WOW, It's Coming!

A four-hour emphasis on WOW (Win Our World) and Reach Out (continuing activities) will be held April 22 in the Baptist Building in Jackson, sponsored by the Evangelism Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Roy Collum, director of the department, said the meeting will begin at 1 p.m. and continue until 5 p.m. in the Baptist Building's Skyroom on the fourth floor.

Program personalities for the meeting will be Wayne Kimbrough, associate pastor and youth director for First Baptist Church, Pontotoc, and Donn Poole, youth director for Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson.

Kimbrough will provide training for leading a WOW school in the local church for junior high school and high



Kimbrough



Poole

school students. He will deal with teaching students to be personal witnesses.

Poole will present a plan for Reach Out which will include participation in personal spiritual growth experiences and in share group fellowships.

Any youth leader who is interested in attending this conference should contact Collum through the evangelism office, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

The Ed Trotts Featured At May 65-Plus Retreat

Missionaries from Bangladesh and Brazil will be program personalities for a Sixty-five Plus retreat May 10-12 at Camp Garaywa.

The retreat will be Baptist women 65 years of age and older and will be sponsored by the Woman's Missionary Union of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

The theme will be "Abiding in Him."



Ed Trotts



Mrs. Ed Trotts

Hard work never killed a man, but it has scared plenty.

The world is like a fruit cake in that it would not be complete without a few nuts in it.

Some preachers fish for compliments while others fish for men.

There's nothing wrong with the younger generation that becoming tax-payers won't cure.

Ethel McKeithen of the WMU staff will be the coordinator for the retreat, and registration should be mailed to her at Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. The cost will be \$12.50 per person. The registration should be accompanied by \$2.50 and \$10 will be paid upon arrival. Those attending should bring sheets, pillow case, towels, and toilet articles. Blankets will be furnished.

The missionaries who will appear on the program are R. T. Buckley, missionary to Bangladesh; Mr. and Mrs. Ed Trotts, missionaries to Brazil; and David Myers, home missionary in the Hinds-Madison Association.

Others who will be on the program will be W. B. Abel, pastor of Union Ridge Baptist Church, Noxapater, Bible study; David VanLandingham, Jackson physician; Mrs. Ann Rushing, Jackson home economist; Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie McCaleb, 38th Avenue Baptist Church, Hattiesburg; and Mr. and Mrs. Edward McKeithen, Trinity Baptist Church, Waynesboro.

Those who are to attend are asked to bring plants to exchange, favorite recipes, and some things they are working on.

Miss McKeithen pointed out that the retreat will begin at 3 p.m. on May 10 and close at noon on May 12.

Ethiopia Missionary Held

(Continued from page 1)

worked together in projects to assist farmers in Tsai Tsina.

Ethiopia has been ruled by a military government since the late Emperor Haile Selassie was ousted in 1974. A 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew is in effect.

At least 10 senior government officials, including the chief of state, Brig. Gen. Tefari Benti, have been executed or murdered in the last eight months.

Southern Baptists currently have 18 missionary personnel and 15 missionary children on the field in Ethiopia, where the denomination has had missions work since 1967. Most of the work centers around community development programs, including health centers, agricultural assistance, and vocational training.

The Cannatas were among the first couples in Ethiopia, transferring there from Rhodesia in 1968. Cannata set up medical clinics in the isolated, mountainous Menz district from 1968 to 1976, when they moved to open a new area of medical work in the Meharbete dis-

trict, about 140 miles north of here.

Their three children, Mike, 17, Stan, 15, and Cathy, 12, all were at home on Easter vacation from Good Shepherd School here when their parents' home was searched.

Cannata, a native of Houston, Tex., became known as the "flying bush doctor" during the 10 years they served in Rhodesia because of his regular trips by plane to visit and minister to the remote Batonga people. In Ethiopia he has continued his flying medical ministry in order to hold clinics in remote areas. He also is chairman of the mission organization of missionaries serving in Ethiopia.

Mrs. Cannata, a native of Greenville, Miss., is the daughter of E. A. Currey of Hollandale, Miss. Cannata's mother, Mrs. M. L. Cannata, lives in Waco, Tex.

Bob Stanley, news director of the Foreign Mission Board, told the Baptist Record that the Ethiopian government has recently approved a new work permit for a pastor in the nation. This is felt to be an encouraging sign, Stanley said.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Bold Cooperation Essential

"Bold Believers In Giving" is the Cooperative Program emphasis for 1977 across the Southern Baptist Convention. Sunday is Cooperative Program Day for the convention, so the emphasis is due to be promoted and examined.

Bold Believers in Giving describes the necessity for a more determined attitude in giving if Southern Baptists are to realize their goal of making the gospel available to every person on earth by the end of the century. There are now fewer than 23 years remaining through the year 1999, and there is much to do before the century runs out.

If every person on this earth is to hear the gospel before this century is gone, a great deal of money is going to be necessary. And we must realize this: a sizeable percentage of the world's population doesn't have 23 years left. Many thousands of people alive now will not make it to the year 2000. If we were really to accomplish the task we would have to move fast indeed.

We are not geared up to get to everyone alive today, of course, but that must not deter us from trying to be in touch with everyone possible. The missions advance goal is to provide a witness to all parts of the world by the end of the century. This is possible.

Because we can't get to everybody immediately, the awesome choice of who to leave out is devastating. That is why we must begin moving as fast as we can as early as we can. This means money.

The Cooperative Program is the vehicle. It provides the means by which every individual Southern Baptist can have a part in sharing the gospel with the entire world. This is in his own state, all over the nation, and in more than 80 nations beyond our borders.

An individual may think his gifts are small, but through the Cooperative Program a definite part of his contribution will wind up in missions use. A church may be small and feel it has no impact on world missions. But contributions through the Cooperative Program make an impact felt around the world regardless of the size of the church.

The Cooperative Program is more than money, however. It is lives given in service overseas or in strange places in this land so that the gospel can be available to everyone. It is people such as the James Youngs of Mississippi who would like to have stayed here rather than go back to Bangladesh when their furlough ended, but they went anyway. It is a pastor understanding the needs of

world missions and leading his people to give worthily through the Cooperative Program. It is an individual sending a part of his tithe through the Cooperative Program.

It is a state convention cooperating with the world missions concept and sharing a goodly portion of its income with causes outside its own boundaries. As a part of its Decade of Advance the Mississippi Baptist Convention is increasing the percentage of funds going outside the state by one-half of one per cent per year through 1984. At that time the figure will have reached 35 per cent.

The effort to reach around the world with the gospel by the end of the century focuses in speedily on the United States. Our Bold Missions Thrust has the goal of making the gospel available to everyone in this nation by the end of this decade. A second facet of the goal is to make a New Testament fellowship available to everyone.

There are fewer than three years remaining in the 1970s. Yet surely we will have been negligent if we fail to do less than attain both aspects of this goal.

A great deal of money will be necessary, and the way to gather the money for the most efficient use of it is to stay with the tested method that is known to work. It is the Cooperative Program.

To Edify The Pastors

Communications of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board with pastors across the state have taken on new forms lately. In an attempt to save postage costs and save pastors' time there is a monthly mailout containing all the material the various department wish to have placed in pastors' hands. This is to be distinguished from practices of a couple of months ago when pastors received numerous mail outs from the Baptist Building.

The second of the monthly packets will be mailed from the Baptist Building on April 15.

By taking just a few minutes once a month every pastor in the state can have a fair idea of what is available in the way of help for every area of his church. Yet reports came back that some of the packets remained unopened last month.

Some pastors reported they did not have time to read all of the material in

the packet since it all was placed in the envelope together. This, too, has been taken care of, and a Pastor's Digest is a part of the packet. The digest simply explains in one or two paragraphs what is contained in each of the pieces in the packet.

It is quick; it is easy; and it costs less than multiplied other mailings. Pastors, you would do well to make use of the packets, or at least the Pastor's Digest, for your own edification.

Personally . . .

The television movie, "Jesus of Nazareth," has come and gone, and this writer felt that it was fine. There were some concepts that could have been changed and some things that could have been added, but other Christians might not have missed certain things as I did nor added other things as I would have.

The scheduling, I felt, was the most unfortunate thing of all. In the east and on the west coast it was televised at 8 p.m. That's not too bad, considering that church services will be over by that time for the most part; and interested viewers would miss only as much as the time it would take them to get home.

In the central and mountain time zones, however, the viewing was at 7 p.m., which placed it during the time for church services on Sunday evening.

Perhaps those making the schedule thought that people don't go to church much on Sunday evening, but such is not the case all across the South; and it would seem that the South would furnish a great segment of the population most interested in the movie. It could have been telecast here at 8 p.m. as well as in the remainder of the nation.

It would be interesting to know to what extent church services were affected on the two Sunday evenings of the movie.

I didn't see all of the movie, but the cry that it denied the divinity of Jesus was ill-founded. We all could have wished, of course, that what was called baptism could have been by immersion and that John the Baptist had not been used to utter the words of the Lord, "This is my beloved Son . . ." As has been pointed out, however, a great portion of the Christian world does not

immerse; and the reluctance to try to give the Lord a speaking voice might be understandable. And perhaps from the account in John's gospel the movie version is all right. A parallel situation occurred when the shepherds on the night of the nativity credited a man with the "Glory to God" statement rather than a heavenly host.

But there was no attempt to deny the fact that Jesus was divine as well as human as he walked on earth.

One thing I would like to have seen added would have been the rending of the veil of the temple, but I suppose one can't have everything he wants.

All in all, to me it was an inspiring movie; and the gospel message was presented. Let us pray that it will lead many to a knowledge of Christ that will result in their salvation — DTM

Thank You, Lord

By James O. Teel
SBC Stewardship Commission

"Though rich, he became poor, that through his poverty we might become rich."

The incarnation makes it easier to understand the gospel. Even today, the gospel must be seen in human form.

When the James E. Youngs returned from their furlough to Dacca, Bangladesh, the contrast of two worlds was evident. As they walked to the small bus waiting for them at the airport, "We were bombarded by beggars," said Mrs. Youngs. "One was blind. Another was a starved-looking child clinging to its mother's tattered clothes. None of them wore shoes. Each had a matted wad of hair. They weren't play-acting."

The tragic conditions in Bangladesh that contribute to her poverty — her small size, many people, natural disaster, war — bring overwhelming discouragement. "After the terrible flooding in 1974, we missionaries nearly wanted to quit. But we couldn't. Matthew 25:35 wouldn't let us." Mrs. Young quoted: "For I was an hungry, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink."

James Young realized that God had a special purpose for his Mississippi farm background. He used his share of the relief money for a two-acre demonstration garden. Then he used one member from each of 35 families, working the field by hand and oxen. At harvest time each of the 35 families received 20 head of cabbage, 25 head of Chinese cabbage, 16 pounds of broccoli, 80 pounds of tomatoes, 90 pounds of Irish potatoes and 100 ears of sweet corn.

As the people were taught how to garden, they were taught the way of eternal life. Mrs. Young said, "We are not primarily here to provide physical food. We are here because of the rightness of the Great Commission given by our Lord."

"We found it hard to come to Bangladesh again. We knew too much about the place. But, we still felt God calling us back, so we came. The night before we were to leave the states, our six-year-old Tim surprised me with, 'This is a happy day. This is an exciting day. You know why? We go back to Bangladesh tomorrow.'"

Thank you, Lord, for those who go. Thank you, Lord — that in our riches we may share. Thank you, that we may share in this ministry — through the Cooperative Program.

Sunday—April 17

Cooperative Program Day

By Jim Powell
Associate Director, SBC
Cooperative Program Promotion

"Bold Believers in Giving Through a Ministering Church" is our SBC Cooperative Program emphasis for 1977. This year's Cooperative Program theme calls for the development of strong, ministering churches. Since every church member is under mandate to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ at home and abroad, it is therefore imperative for every church to be at work fulfilling its God-given mission. Just as one church member can do little toward carrying on the work of an entire church by himself, so one church is helpless in trying to meet the mission needs of a state, a nation, and the world by itself. The Cooperative Program is how Southern Baptists

have chosen to pool their funds for doing their missions work.

The two words *voluntary* and *together* best describe Baptists at work. It was the Apostle Paul who stated, "For we are labourers together with God" (1 Cor. 3:9 RSV). We must continually challenge every Baptist to minister in Christ's name through the church and through the Cooperative Program in bold support of a world mission ministry.

How do we do this? Cooperative Program Day, April 17, is a prime opportunity for every church to lead its members to a greater awareness of the mission needs at home and abroad. It can be a time to emphasize the importance and need for the Cooperative Program. Inform your church members of some of the many ministries being performed and accomplished

through Cooperative Program giving. Cooperative Program Day should also be used as a time to challenge all church members to a vital mission commitment. Lead them to pray for the people and causes supported through the Cooperative Program as well as the people ministered to through the Cooperative Program.

You may want to use Cooperative Program Day in your church on April 17 to . . .

... Pray for the missionaries who are sharing the gospel throughout your state, nation, and world through the Cooperative Program.

... Pray for your church to become more interested in a bold missions thrust.

... Pray for increased giving on the part of your church for world missions through the Cooperative Program.

Cooperative Strength

By Edward B. Trott
Missionary-In-Residence

In the state of Paraiba, Brazil, there is grown a large amount of sisal (hemp). It is used to make rugs, mats, rope, etc.

This material is exported, too. It is a plant that can exist with very little water and thus is especially suited to be grown in high, dry areas of the central part of the state.

The inner fiber of the thick leaves is shredded and dried. Then it is taken, stacked high on trucks, to factories to be processed.

Many times I have seen men and women spinning these fibers into rope. They have a wheel-like apparatus to which they attach the fibers. Then they begin turning the wheel and constantly adding more fibers. Gradually a rope begins to be formed.

One lone fiber has no strength in itself. It is useless to be alone. But yet if this fiber is combined with many others a

strong rope can be made.

The same thing is true in regard to our mission giving. There is no way any one person can carry out the mandate of the Great Commission alone. There is no way that any one person could effectively witness to every person in every country. There is no way that one person could speak fluently all the languages of the world. Also no one person could ever be adequately prepared to minister to all the needs of all mankind.

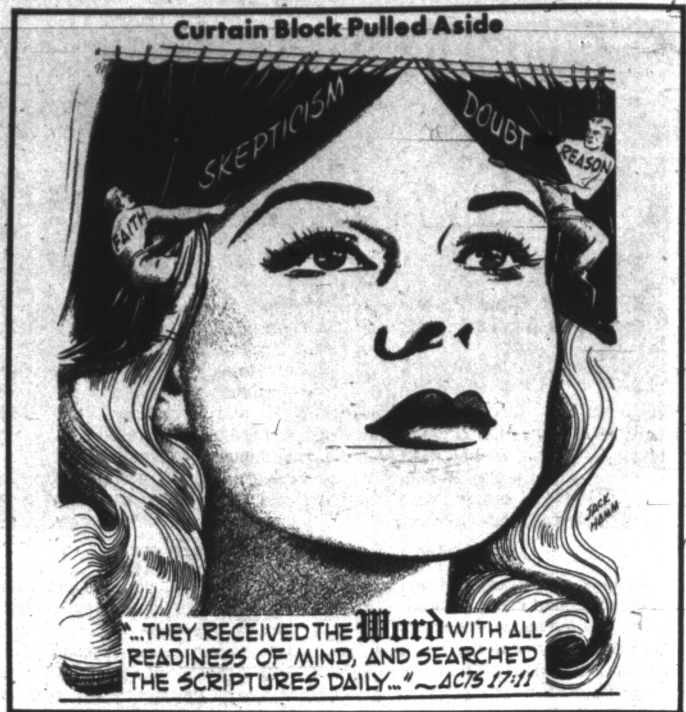
Yet, in a way we can do all these things through the Cooperative Program. Our gifts are combined with those of several million other Southern Baptists to make it possible for us to have a part in a strong witness here and around the world. I may never have the opportunity to travel to many of these distant places, nor speak the languages spoken there; yet my gift through the Cooperative Program can help someone to be there to communicate God's love to these people. It may be that I will never be a medical doctor nor a pilot. It may be that I will never use sign language to the deaf nor write in braille, but I can help someone who has this ability to do this through the Cooperative Program.

Yes, the Cooperative Program is the rope that is made by many fibers that are gifts of love which encircle the earth with the message of salvation for all.

widow, Mrs. Linda Thomas Jenkins, son Lee age 5 of Vicksburg, parents Mr. and Mrs. Claude Jenkins of Sallis, MS.

The James Young family was unable to attend the funeral and may be addressed at Box 3, Feni, (Noakhali) Bangladesh.

Name withheld as requested



Facets And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Harold Shirley is pastor of Ardmore Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. Many of you will remember that he once lived in Mississippi, when he was pastor of First Church, Yazoo City. I'd like to share what I read in his church bulletin, *The Ardmore Announcer*, in the pastor's column, "One Parson's Opinion."

"Vicksburg is a city of memorable monuments, having been the center of some major Civil War conflicts. On a spring day, I was walking from the old downtown Hotel Vicksburg out to the Trinity Baptist Church, where I was engaged in a week-long series of revival services."

"Each day on that trek to the church, I took a different route in order to absorb the history and beauty of that city in the midst of spring blossoms."

"As I walked toward Trinity one morning, I saw a rather large, imposing obelisk, typical of historical monuments in that city. I imagined as I approached the pyramidal reminder that it was another memorial to brave soldiers who had fought and died on that spot."

"I was wrong. Moving up close to the old stone monument, I read:

Erected by a Grateful Community in Memory of DR. HUGH BODLEY murdered by the gamblers while defending the morals of

Vicksburg."

("The date was 25 years before the Civil War — July 5, 1835.")

"As I reflected that day upon the struggle which had occurred between a beloved Presbyterian pastor in that city and a Mafia-type element, I was thrown into deep reflection, and shamefacedly, I remembered those times when

... a fight should have been fought, and I retreated in order not to offend;

... an issue should have been opened, and I shut my mouth in order not to be controversial;

... a stand should have been taken, and I sat down in order not to get involved;

... a plea for civilization should have been voiced, and I feared that my prophetic voice might hurt the Unified Budget!

"When the pulpit loses its courage and becomes voiceless and toothless in the face of the world, the flesh and the Devil's onslaught, then what does the future hold?"

"Grateful am I beyond words for having a free pulpit, supported by the earnest prayers and the encouraging friendship of countless Christian friends."

Sincerely, your pastor,
Harold A. Shirley
Ezekiel 2:1-5."

Letters To The Editor

State Paper Circulation

Open Letter to
Mrs. Joseph S. McEachern
Eupora, Mississippi

Dear Mrs. McEachern:

As editor emeritus of the Arkansas Baptist News-Magazine, I receive all of the state Baptist papers, including, of course, *The Baptist Record*, which has long been one of our best Baptist publications. I have just now read about the part you had in the Church Budget Plan for circulating the state papers. Thank you so much, dear Mrs.

McEachern, for originating the best of all circulation plans — best for our Baptist people, best for the churches, and best for the Baptist papers. This was the one and only plan I promoted during my 15 years as editor of the Arkansas paper, and it has paid off and continues to pay off for our papers all over the country.

I do not have your detailed address, but I am mailing this in the hope it will reach you. I just wanted you to know how much all of us love and appreciate you.

Erwin L. McDonald

Little Rock, Ark.

Humility Exemplified

Unlike any other event in this century — and possibly since the founding of the Republic — the inauguration of Jimmy Carter set in motion a spirit which will affect the people of this nation more than any other single event in the past and any other to come — the spirit of humility exuding from every act of the day until the whole affair had become a part of the past.

Make-believe and pretense were cast aside and thrown to the four winds of the earth. Everything was down to earth and understandable — as real as the daylight itself. There was no regal pomp, no act of superiority, nothing at all which would indicate the new President had set himself aside and beyond the reach of the people who listened to him or witnessed the events of the day.

Sermons have been preached and orators have delivered addresses on humility a thousand and one times,

perhaps, but what transpired in the inaugural and immediately before impressed many people in a most positive manner, this recognition of his predecessor as a healer of the national wounds, the oath-taking ritual, the address to the nation, and the family walking from the Capitol to the White House (all of what was just being a part of the people) made humility real to many an individual who otherwise did not or had not fully comprehended the impact of such a spirit. But it was really a fact of life that day — to more people than heretofore.

A truly great spirit was rekindled and thus once again became a vital factor in life — in the nation, in the world and in the hearts of man.

Kirby Tyrone
Prentiss

Missionary's Brother Killed

Dear Sir:

There are probably many friends of Gwin and James Young who do not know of her brother's recent tragic death who receive the *Baptist Record* all over the world and would like to write them a letter. I would appreciate it if you would put the following information in the *Baptist Record*.

Mrs. James (Guinevere Jenkins) Young, who is a Southern Baptist missionary to Bangladesh, lost her brother, Rev. Brand Lee Jenkins, age 32, in an automobile accident near Flora, Ms. on January 29, 1977. Rev. Jenkins was the pastor of the First Methodist Protestant Church of Vicksburg, MS. where he had served for eight years.

Rev. Jenkins is also survived by his

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Philippines And Hong Kong

By David R. Grant, Pastor
Broadmoor Baptist Church

(One of a Series)

David and I left Indonesia and flew directly to Manila, Philippines. Prior to leaving Jackson, we had made arrangements with the Guy Hendersons to meet us and to let us stay with them. Guy met us and we went directly to his church, where I spoke at the midweek prayer service, and also where we had the privilege of meeting several other missionary friends. One was Mrs. Leslie Hill, whom I had met when I was there in the Asian Evangelistic Campaign in 1970, and also the James Fosters, who are from Mississippi.

The Hendersons were a gracious host and hostess. They had just returned from furlough and were still having some difficulty with jet lag. Although we did not make an extensive tour of Baptist work in Manila, we did visit some. We visited the Baptist Building and several of the missionaries while there in the Baptist Building. I talked by phone to Dr. Bob Simmons — a long-time friend of mine and former fellow pastor in Mississippi for many years, but now in Baguio. We had planned to visit with him and Mary, but our schedule just would not permit it. He will be home in a few months and will live in the missionary home which Broadmoor Baptist Church provides. We also had the

happy privilege of visiting the dormitory provided for missionaries' children who must go to school in Manila. We were taken over the building by the housefather, whom I had met back in 1970. He and his wife were business people here in the States and went out as missionary associates. They are doing a great job for our Lord. This is indeed a good type of Christian service for someone who is interested.

Manila has truly changed in seven years. I do not know when I have ever seen more beautiful high-rise hotels than are going up in that very beautiful city. There are also some beautiful shopping centers and department stores in the city. We bought most of our gifts that we brought home from there.

One other pleasant visit we made while there was to the Wycliffe Translators' headquarters. People of Jackson had been responsible for purchasing an airplane for these people in the Philippines. I had had a part in that project, and it was a joy to associate a few minutes with them.

As has been mentioned in previous articles, the missionaries in Vietnam have gone to other localities. We met a family in Manila who had moved there from Vietnam. The thing that impressed me about them was they left a fellowship they were enjoying and went home to study the language. They had already learned one foreign lan-

guage and were now engaged in learning another.

We left Manila and went to Hong Kong. For tourists and shoppers, this is one of the exciting cities of the world. Dr. Ralph Bethea in Kenya had given me a letter of introduction to the missionaries there. We stayed in the YMCA right in the heart of town, and this dad and his son had a great time roaming the streets and shopping centers together. David had saved his money and bought a camera there and since then has used it tremendously. In fact, he is taking a course in photography at Mississippi College now.

We got in touch with the missionaries immediately and made arrangements to go to church on Sunday. The Peyton Moores picked us up at the hotel and took us to church with them. They are another replaced Vietnam missionary family. He is from Mississippi. The church is the one Dr. Bob Simmons went to when he left a Mississippi pastorate to serve as a missionary. They meet in the assembly room of a Seventh Day Adventist hospital. It was truly a cosmopolitan church. I also had the privilege of preaching there on Sunday morning.

After the service, we were invited with the pastor and members of the church to a home for a covered dish lunch. The food and fellowship were great. After lunch Bro. Moore took us around over the city to visit other Bap-

tist work. We visited the hospital, the college, and the seminary. These were quick visits, but nevertheless we saw them. We also learned that a professor from Southern Seminary had been in Hong Kong for two weeks and would lead a young people's choir that night in the largest Chinese church in the world. He is originally from Hong Kong. David and I first went to a regular preaching service that was led by a missionary and then went to hear the choir. It was a great experience for both of us. After the choir service they observed the Lord's Supper; and this was an exceptionally long service, but most interesting and rewarding.

After the service Missionary Fox met us, drove us around over the city, and then took us for something to eat. She is approaching retirement and was a joy to be with.

One thing of much interest about the Hong Kong work is the publishing house. All of our Chinese publishing is done there. The work in Hong Kong is vast indeed with the world of refugees and also as a launching pad or area for so much of the work there.

The schools, hospital, and publishing house, along with the missionaries themselves, make that fascinating city a key point of missionary work all over the world.

The next and last article will be on Taiwan.

Thursday, April 14, 1977

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5



A "PLANE" GIFT — (L-R) Mr. and Mrs. James Rankin stand with Richard Styles of the Foreign Mission Board and Dr. Robert Peden, in front of a Cessna Skyhawk II aircraft. Dr. Peden presented the aircraft to the FMB as a token of his friendship with James Rankin's brother Jerry, who is now serving as a Southern Baptist missionary to Indonesia. (MC Photo by James O. Ferrugia)

Result Of MC Friendship

Donates Plane In Missionary's Honor

College friendships have a way of lasting through the years.

At least that has been the case with Mississippi College graduates Robert Peden and Jerry A. Rankin.

Peden, now a physician in Baton Rouge, La., has renewed that college friendship by presenting a Cessna Skyhawk II aircraft to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board on behalf of Rankin, who is currently serving his sixth year as a Southern Baptist missionary in Indonesia.

"One of my own desires has been to do someday what Jerry is doing," said Peden as he presented the gift. "I can't be there physically right now but I want to contribute in any way I can."

The friendship between Peden and Rankin dates back to high school days at Clinton High School, Clinton, Miss., where they were classmates. Both went on to Mississippi College where the friendship continued to develop.

Peden was a member in the track program at Mississippi College and Rankin was a sports reporter.

"Jerry used to cover sports for the Clarion Ledger," said Peden as he reminisced about their college days. "I used to tag along on Friday nights to help him keep the score books."

Following their graduation from Mississippi College in 1964, the two friends set up to pursue separate careers. Peden went on to New Orleans, where he worked his way through medical school at Tulane University and eventually set up his current practice in Baton Rouge. Rankin attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., and served as a pastor in Sadler, Tex., before traveling to the mission field with his wife Bobbye and their two children.

"Even though we chose different occupations and haven't seen each other much in the last few years, I admire Jerry and still feel very close to him," said Peden. "His whole family has meant a lot to me."

As a physician, Peden has had the opportunity to spend time in underdeveloped countries working with medi-

cal clinics. He has made five trips to El Salvador, in Central America, and is aware of missionary transportation needs.

Since Rankin is not a pilot, the 160-horsepower, navigation - equipped aircraft will be used by Ben E. Hope, a missionary in Brazil who covers an area about the size of Texas. Hope had been praying for almost six years for an aircraft and had even taken lessons for his license as a step of faith.

"I'm glad I could be the answer to that prayer," said Peden.

While on furlough in Oklahoma City, Okla., Hope has been completing his commercial license and instrument rating. He plans to accompany a Brazilian commercial pilot in flying the aircraft to Brazil on completion of his furlough in mid-August. Government regulations require the use of a commercial pilot when planes are being imported, Hope said.

Hope and his family live in Cuiaba, capital of the state of Mato Grosso in South Brazil. Because road travel is difficult in the pioneer area, the aircraft will be a great help in developing new churches, the missionary said. Often he will take along Brazilian church workers, who sometimes live 150 to 200 miles from the churches they are helping to start.

Peden said he will give the Foreign Mission Board \$3,000 annually for upkeep on the plane. According to Peden, the Wycliffe Bible Translators organization has a service facility in Brazil which will be made available for aircraft maintenance.

"We have so few pilots that it would not be feasible for the mission board to buy an aircraft," said Richard M. Styles, public relations consultant for the Foreign Mission Board. "We are truly thankful for Dr. Peden's gift and his show of appreciation for the work of missionaries like Jerry Rankin."

Mr. James Rankin, a Jackson lawyer and brother of Jerry Rankin accepted the gift along with his wife Rosemond and Richard Styles of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, at a dinner hosted by Mississippi College.

Parkway Establishes New State Record In Giving, For Building Fund Campaign

Parkway Church, Jackson, has established a new giving record for a Church Building Fund Campaign in the state of Mississippi. Under the direction of Pastor Bill Causey and layman Edie Kinchen, the members of Parkway have committed themselves to give \$825,000 in the next three years, over their regular budget gifts, to assist in the construction of a new sanctuary, office space, and music suite. When the follow-up phase of the campaign is completed, the figure will be even higher. Parkway has a member of 3300 and averaged 1200 in Sunday School attendance in 1976.

The new Parkway sanctuary is estimated to cost in the neighborhood of \$1,800,000 and will seat 1100 people. Parkway's annual budget is \$621,137.00.

John Alexander of the Convention Board's Stewardship staff served as consultant for the campaign.

Using the slogan, "It happens in your heart..." the membership was



Causey, Kinchen

challenged to give sacrificially to reach a Victory Goal of \$600,000, a Challenge Goal of \$800,000, and a Hal-lelujah-Goal of \$1,000,000.

"This campaign will put our church on a sound financial basis in financing the new building and save the church over \$800,000 in interest," said campaign director Kinchen.

How did they do it? Pastor Bill

Causey says, "That same question gnawed at a rag-tag group just back from Babylon long ago. After the ravages of invasion, followed by looting and slavery, they had little or no resources. Their adversaries scoffed.

Then God spoke 'not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts.' And it was done. And that is the way we will do it! By the Spirit of God! His Spirit in our hearts! And His people sacrificing!"



Assisting Pastor Causey and Campaign Director Kinchen were: front row, left to right—Lillian Ferrell, Elizabeth Robertson, Ann Majors, W. P. Bobo, Meredith Tatum, and Buddy Head. Back row, left to right: Sandy Sandifer, Henry Broadstreet, James Hall, Randal Bryant, Bethel Ferguson, Bubba Townsend, Jimmy Barfield, and Ed Joe.

Revival Dates

Parkhill Church, Jackson: April 17-22; Fred Moseley of New Orleans Seminary; music led by Jimmy Bilbo of Midway Church in Jackson; Joe Stovall, pastor.

Temple Church, (Jackson): April 11-17; services at 7:30 p.m.; Robert Carlisle, pastor of Big Ridge Church, Biloxi, evangelist; Wayne Crenshaw, pastor.

First Church, Ellisville: April 17-20 (7 a.m. and 7 p.m.) Bob Marsh, pastor, First Church, Dothan, Ala. evangelist; Billy Vaughan, minister of music, First Church, Laurel; singer; W. C. Burns, pastor.

First Church, Marks: April 11-17; morning and evening services; Frank W. Gunn, pastor of First Church, Biloxi, evangelist; music under direction of Dick Burrell, minister of music, Parkview Church, Lake City, Florida; David H. Bookout, pastor; James Francis, minister of music.

Union (Rankin): April 10-15; at 7:30 p.m.; S. W. Valentine, pastor, evangelist; Sammy Neely, singer.

Webb Church: April 17-20; William Ferrell, evangelist, pastor of Sylva Church, Smith Association; Jerry Talley, singer, minister of music and activities, Oak Forest Church, Jackson; Mrs. G. D. Hightower, Jr., organist; Mrs. Jim Pennington, Jr., pianist; Sunday Services 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Monday-Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.; M. Lee Ferrell, pastor.

Holly Bluff (Yazoo): youth revival; April 22, 23, 24; at 7:30 nightly; Jimmy D. Carr, pastor, evangelist; Tommy Marsh, Memphis, music evangelist.

DeLay Church (Lafayette): April 15-17; services at 7:30 p.m.; Ned Davis, evangelist; Roy C. Wilson, pastor.

Webb Church: April 17-20; William Ferrell, evangelist, pastor of Sylva Church, Smith Association; Jerry Talley, singer, minister of music and activities, Oak Forest Church, Jackson; Mrs. G. D. Hightower, Jr., organist; Mrs. Jim Pennington, Jr., pianist; Sunday Services 11:00 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Monday - Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.; M. Lee Ferrell, pastor.

Father Of Two Preachers Dies

James Cornelius "Bud" Smith of Route 4, Richton, died April 2 at Perry County General Hospital, Richton, at the age of 94. He was the father of two Baptist preachers — Carnie Smith, retired pastor, camp manager of Baldwin Baptist Camp, Robertsedale, Ala., and James Smith, pastor of First Church, McNeil, Ms.

Funeral services were held April 4 at Brewer Church, Richton. John Henry and Ramon Leake officiated.

Survivors in addition to the two preacher sons are three other sons, Leonard and Murdock of Richton and James Milton of Gulfport; one daughter, Mrs. Mary Edwards, Richton; one sister; 25 grandchildren; 62 great-grandchildren; and 15 great, great-grandchildren.

New York (RNS) — The Rev. W. Donald McClure, 70, a retired United Presbyterian missionary to the Sudan and Ethiopia, was killed by bandits in eastern Ethiopia March 27. His son, the Rev. W. Donald McClure, Jr., reported the killing to denominational officials here. He said that "chaos followed the killing," with the bandits shooting at each other.



F. E. Smith, right, president of Calvary's Sanctuary Choir, reviews script with Robert Wade (Pontius Pilate) and Mrs. Byron Mathis, director of the sanctuary choir.

Pascagoula's Calvary To Present "God's Trombones"

Pascagoula's Calvary Church will present a dramatic production of "God's Trombones," April 17, 7 p.m. in their sanctuary. This is a Festival of Arts project and is also Calvary's spring dramatic and musical production.

"God's Trombones" is a production based on James Weldon Johnson's book of southern dialect sermons. Mrs. Laurie Burkes, chairman of Calvary's dramatic committee, has taken the sermons and produced them to drama, using portable stages and costumes. Mrs. Mathis has set the script to music

— emphasizing the southern spirituals. Mr. and Mrs. Owen Stokes have been responsible for the props and costumes.

James Miller, associate pastor, will serve as sermon narrator; Buddy Mathis is featured in character narrations, and also accompanies the choir with his trumpet. Accompanists are: Mrs. Vickie Hollingsworth, organist; Mrs. Annette Graham, pianist.

Byron E. Mathis is pastor of the church.

Bethel's 87-Year-Old Music Minister In 67th Year Of Song Ministry

Robert L. Cooper of Aberdeen, who celebrated his 87th birthday on November 12, 1976, has for 67 years been active in the field of sacred music. He entered the gospel song ministry in 1909 and the greater part of his time since then has been spent in evangelistic work. At the present he is serving as minister of music at Bethel Church in Monroe County. He performs at banquets and special events throughout the state.

Cooper studied at Moody Bible Insti-

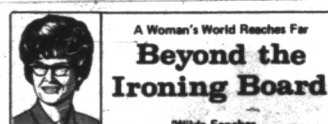
tute in Chicago, at New Orleans Seminary, and at Southwestern Seminary. He has been associated with some of Southern Baptists' great leaders such as George Truett, T. L. Holcomb, James Leavell, Roland Q. Leavell, W. A. Hewitt, Wallace Bassett and others. With many of these he shared the program platform, he as soloist, they as speakers.

J. P. Harrington, who organized Parkway Church, Jackson, was the first pastor Cooper ever assisted in a revival meeting as an evangelistic singer.

A composer, Cooper has had published a book of his own compositions entitled, Cooper's Best Songs. In his

gospel song ministry he has worked in 17 states. He has sung for many special occasions. One of the highlights of his career was when Judge William Keady asked him to entertain at the dedication ceremonies for the Abernathy Federal Court Facilities in Aberdeen. He composed "The Day of Jubilation" for the affair, singing and accompanying himself at the piano.

Cooper took an eight - year leave of absence from fulltime gospel singing to serve as a member of the Mississippi State House of Representatives. He served as a member of the House from 1954-60. The next four years he worked with Speaker of the House, Walter Sillers.



Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilda Fenchel

Don't you like chillbumps? Or goosebumps, or whatever you call those little hills of skin that rise up unexpectedly when something causes you to feel a deep, thrilling of mind, spirit, and body.

Our choir has enjoyed doing "Celebrate Life" several times. It has taken some kind of work to be ready to present it the way our director likes us to present any work that is to honor the Lord and point people to Christ. So we have worked.

Sunday morning in church we used one of the numbers from the musical as our special music. After we had finished, during that moment when J. M.'s direction kept us at attention while the instruments completed their notes and before we sat down, he said, silently, to us, "Beautiful, just beautiful." That's when I had chillbumps. Because I thought, if being as pleased to have been a part of something done well and something so satisfying to the one who led us is this joyful, what kind of feeling will I have on that day, still to come, when I'm standing in the presence of my Lord, and he is looking me in the eye, if He can say to me, "Well done... Thou hast been faithful..."

Somehow, this week has been better, for having reminded myself of that. Keeping the house picked up has been more purposeful, learning words to a song for church has been easier, working on materials for nearing responsibilities I have accepted hasn't seemed so demanding. Being true to convictions has been easier, in spite of rejection or resentment; hanging on to high standards has seemed right. On and on I could go. The point is that too often I do what I do because of other people and what they think. The important thing really is what I'll hear from my Heavenly Father, not only in the future, but day by day as His Spirit reassures me, nudges me, restrains me, urges me, silences me, comforts me, or rejoices with me, or counsels with me, or coaxes words for me.

I'm glad that part of my training has always included memorizing Bible verses. Else, I might have missed a lot of chillbumps.



Outstanding Alumnus Award

William Carey College honored Betty Hart, center, as Outstanding Alumnus of the Year during Homecoming festivities March 26. Miss Hart is on furlough from duties as a missionary to Antofagasta, Chile. Shown with her are Martha Hutson of Hattiesburg, chairman of the awards committee of Carey's Alumni Executive Council, and Tommy King of Laurel, immediate past president of the Carey Alumni Association. (WCC photo by Cecil Rimes)



Mrs. W. L. Compere (right) with Roger Carroll (left), Prattville, Ala., and Jenni DeSilva (center), Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., devotional chairmen of the men's and women's dorms discuss the uses of the map.

34 Clarke Alumni Serve Around World

Alumni of Clarke College are serving in many places around the world. At present, 34 Clarke alumni are in service with the Foreign Mission Board, in 21 countries.

To keep these alumni in mind and to challenge current students, world missions maps with alumni designated by country have been placed in the Prayer Rooms of both women's and men's dormitories. The prayer rooms have been a continuing concern of Mrs. W. L. Compere, wife of Clarke's president, who has led in providing an attractive room in each dormitory.

The prayer room in the women's dorm, in use for a number of years, has received a face lift with the addition of furniture brought from Guyana, South

America, and given by Clarke alumni John and Jean Jacobs who served as missionaries there. The prayer room in the Men's Dorm was furnished last year by Clarke trustee, Mrs. A. J. McIlwain of Jackson as a memorial to her parents, Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Kinsey.

NOBTS Alumni Plan Reunion

NEW ORLEANS — The annual reunion of alumni of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is slated for Wednesday, June 15 at the Radisson Muehlebach Hotel, across the street from the Roe Bartle Convention Center in Kansas City, Missouri.

The program will begin at noon and all graduates and friends of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary may purchase tickets for the luncheon at the NOBTS booth in the convention center.

Autograph Party To Unveil Book By E. M. Causey

Emerald M. Causey's recently published book, *Under God's Mandate*, will be unveiled at an autograph party at Liberty Church, Liberty, April 23, 2 to 5 p.m. Causey is emeritus director of missions of the Mississippi Baptist Association, the oldest association in the state and in the deep mid-south. He is retired and lives at Liberty, his boyhood home.

The book records in a series of devotional messages many of the personal, family, and pastoral experiences of Causey's 55 years of preaching ministry, including pastorates in five states of the south and the Northwest, and preaching in 12 other states and in northern Ireland.

He has started a number of new churches and has held leadership positions in district associations, state conventions, and in the Southern Baptist Convention. He has preached in many revivals and often spoken to civic, fraternal, and other religious groups. He has traveled in all the states and in 24 foreign nations, including the Holy Land.

Causey will be available to autograph books purchased at the party. Other books may be obtained by writing Mrs. Causey at P. O. Box 332, Liberty, Miss., 39645, or by phone to 657-3638.



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Georgia Baptists—FMB Plan Missions Commitment Service

ATLANTA, Ga. — An appointment service for 20 new foreign missionaries to be held here April 19 at 7:15 p.m. in the Omni will feature a time for Georgia Baptists to commit themselves to a new effort in bold mission advance in their state.

The service will challenge participants to become prayer partners with the more than 2,700 missionaries on foreign fields and with the newly appointed missionaries. With this service Georgia Baptists are launching their Bold Mission Thrust campaign with the goal of telling everyone in Georgia about Jesus by 1980. The Southern Baptist Convention goal is to tell everyone in the world about Jesus Christ before the end of this century.

The appointment service is a public setting aside of missionary candidates as foreign missionaries. Testimonies

of the candidates will be a feature of the service, plus a 1,000-voice choir and a parade of flags from some of the 85 nations where Southern Baptist missionaries are under appointment. The flags will be carried by Georgia youth from the missionary education organizations of Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action and Acteens.

Baker J. Cauthen, executive director of the Foreign Mission Board, will deliver an inspirational challenge to the newly appointed missionaries.

This is the first time in the history of Georgia Baptists that a foreign missions appointment service is to be held in their state. Appointment services are usually held in the Richmond, Va., headquarters of the Foreign Mission Board. In 1969 the board began to hold the April appointment service outside of Richmond to allow Baptist people to

participate more directly in the appointment of the missionaries they support.

The fellow who figured out how to get 25,000 units of vitamin A in one tiny capsule must have been a bus driver.

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Mississippi College exists today as an outstanding independent college because men and women of vision have seen the importance of having a quality institution dedicated to the service of God and mankind. That is what BREAKTHROUGH, the Mississippi College Campaign for Development, is all about.

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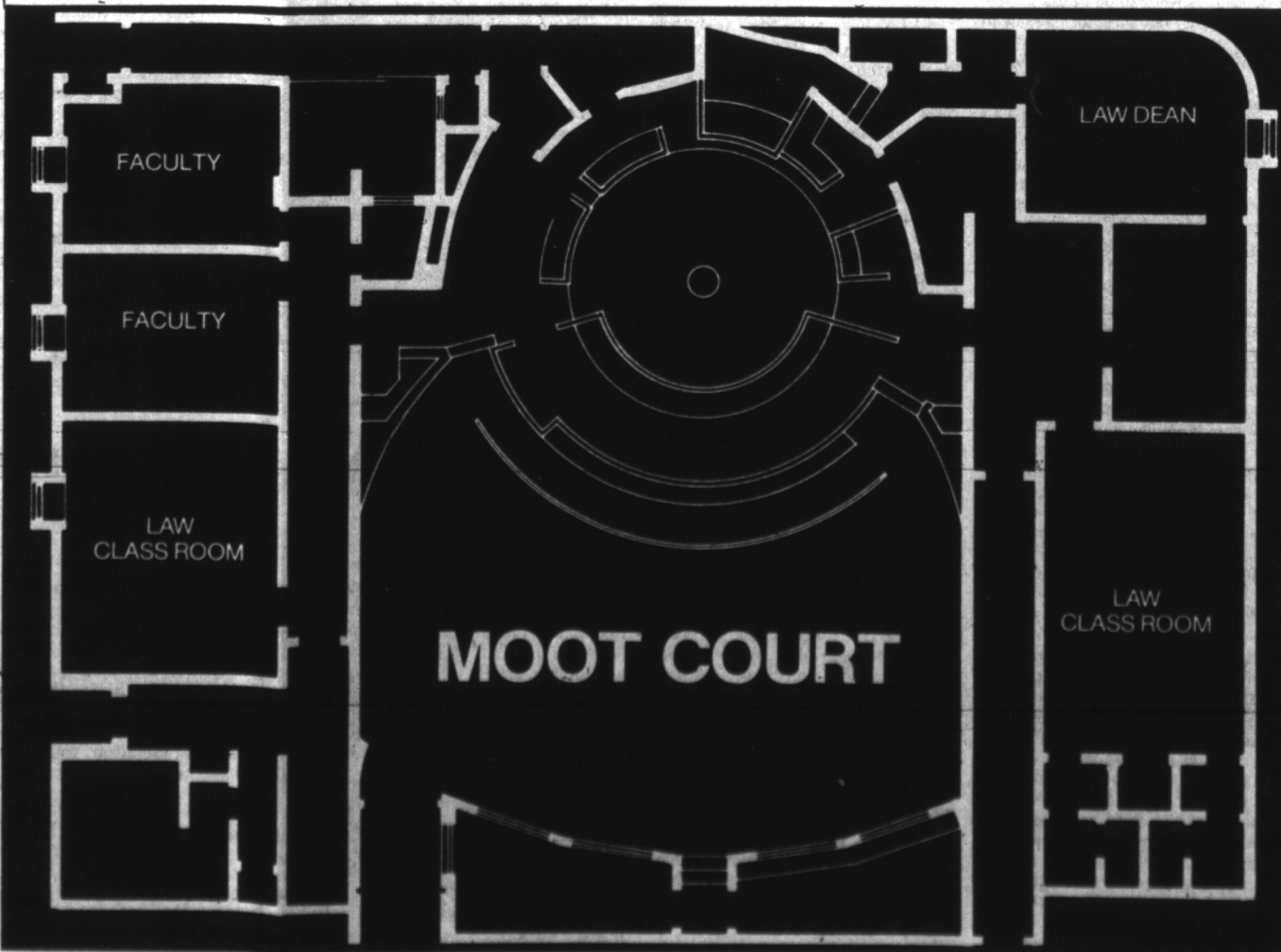
You are invited to help make sure future generations will have this vital alternative.

For further information contact:
Breakthrough Campaign
434 E. Capitol 944-0208

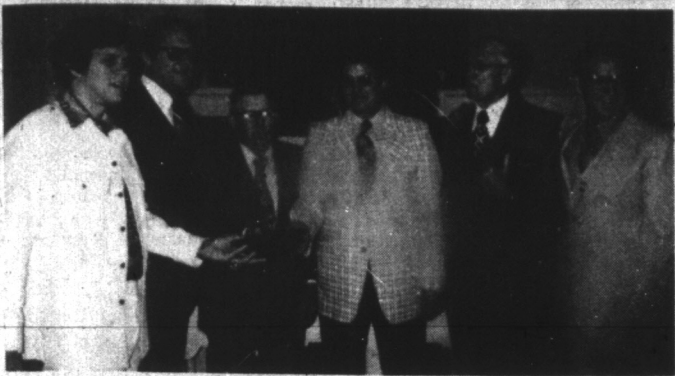
Breakthrough

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE CAMPAIGN FOR DEVELOPMENT

Plans are in the blueprint stage for a building to house the Mississippi College School of Law. Funds from BREAKTHROUGH will help finance its construction.



Just For The Record



Ron Kirkland (pastor), left, and three former pastors, Billy Pierce, trustee Carl Regel, Charles Ellis, D. C. Hartley, and deacon T. S. Aldridge, take part in the note burning ceremony of West Marks Church. The note burning was a part of the first homecoming ever held at West Marks on Saturday, March 19. Pierce, one of the former pastors, preached a revival for the church March 13-20. Rudy Rideout, minister of music and youth at West Marks, led the music.



Our Church And The Cooperative Program

By Paul Lewis Brooks, Pastor
Woodlawn, Vicksburg

I was worshipping with a friend in a small Baptist church which did not support the Cooperative Program. A special service had been called to hear from a missionary who had just returned from Mexico. As I listened to the man speak, who was obviously a very dedicated and sincere missionary, I suddenly realized that he was trying to persuade the congregation to donate some money to his missionary work so he could continue to spread the Gospel. I thought to myself, "Why was this good man so far away from his field of service, pleading like a March of Dimes volunteer for financial support? He should be out doing what God had called him to do — spreading the Gospel, and the church should have been doing what God called it to do — paying for it!"

That experience happened many years ago when I was a boy preacher in

college. It taught me more than anything before or since about the blessing of the Cooperative Program. God's foreign missionaries, seminary professors, home missionaries, Children's Home workers, etc., should be out doing what God has called them to do, while the churches of the Lord Jesus are out doing what God has called them to do, supporting His work financially. The Cooperative Program is the greatest tool I know of to keep the Lord's men and women on the job! Not only do I believe in the Cooperative Program, but so does our church. This year Woodlawn Church in Vicksburg will give 21% of its receipts through the Cooperative Program to the support of world missions. That amounts to something like \$57,000.

Woodlawn, Vicksburg, was 50th in the state in per capita giving to mission through the Cooperative Program in 1976. This is \$38.73 per member, an annual increase of \$6541.37.

Hunting Club Goes To Church To Surprise Pastor On Anniversary

East Philadelphia Church, Philadelphia, had a special service on March 20, commemorating the fifth anniversary of their pastor and his family. Joe Beeland, chairman of the deacons, presented an engraved plaque to Pastor Olyn F. Roberts denoting appreciation for the service he and his family had rendered the past five years. Eloise, the pastor's wife, was presented an engraved gold plate, and Debbie an engraved bracelet. Jerry Smith, Minister of Music, led a choir of Senior Citizens in singing many of the pastor's favorites. Kermit Sharp, director of missions for Neshoba County, spoke words of praise for the pastor's work and said he had never met a man with more energy and more projects going.

One of the great surprises for the pastor was having fifteen members of the pastor's hunting club and some of their families present. Jeff Fulton, president of the Springhill Hunting Club, introduced the club members, after which Bud Jones presented the pastor with an Old Timers hunting knife from the members of the club. Bud described the sportsmanship and Christian conduct of Roberts during his three years of membership in the club.

Before the pastor's message from I Corinthians 2:1-5, Debbie Roberts, pastor's daughter from Clarke College, presented a solo.

The Roberts family moved to East Philadelphia from Juneau, Alaska.

Perkinston Pays For Sanctuary In Two Years

Perkinston Church made the final payment on the debt for their new sanctuary on March 10. The sanctuary, valued at more than \$100,000 was dedicated on May 11, 1975. The building was completely paid for in less than two years after the dedication service. Now the church can turn its attention to future projects. The pastor, Skip Barnett, says, "With this kind of co-operation great things can be accomplished that will give further testimony of God's people working together."

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Three classes were in perfect attendance at Fair Ridge Church, Stringer, on Attendance Day, March 27. They were the preschoolers, and two children's classes. Grant Kelley, Sunday School director, awarded perfect attendance pins. One went to Stacy Parker for five years perfect attendance, and others went to seven persons with records for less than five years, including Bennie Evans, pastor.

In honor of Stacy Parker's record, the Sunday School presented him with a plaque. An identical plaque will hang in the church. Stacy, who is only 11, has attended Sunday School every Sunday for nearly half his life.

Central Church, Brookhaven, has been awarded the Distinguished Certificate for Church Training for 1975-76 and 1976-77. They also received the Five-Star Program award last year. Central won the banner for the highest attendance at the Associational "M" Night in 1975 and 1976. Pictured are Don Cothern, director of the Young Adult Department; Janice Welborn, director of the Children's Department; Bessie McLain, director of the Pre-School Department; and Randy Porter, Church Training director. H. Glen Schilling is pastor.

Central Calls R. G. Kirkland

Ronald G. Kirkland became pastor of Central Church, McComb, April 1. He goes there from the West Marks Church, Marks. Other pastorates have included Mt. Pleasant Church, Bogie Chitto, and New Zion Church, Liberty.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Kirkland of Liberty, he was born in Centerville. He received the B.A. degree from Mississippi College, and ThM degree from New Orleans Seminary, and hopes to receive the ThD degree this year.

He is married to the former Betty Sue Morgan of Smithdale. She attended Southwest Junior College and finished Mississippi College.

They have three children, Davy, 5, Dany, 4, and Sundi, one year.

Stovall Moves To Mt. Olive

Michael Stovall has assumed the pastorate of Mt. Olive Church in Smithdale Community, going from the Little Texas Church near Tunica where he served as interim pastor.

He and his wife, the former Carolyn F. Horton on March 16 were honored with a covered dish supper and an old fashioned "pounding."

Stovall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Stovall of Belen, is a native of that Clarksdale suburb. His wife is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eli Horton, now of Lyon. They were married on June 4, 1976.

Stovall attended Northwest Junior College and for the past three years has served as interim pastor, in youth work, and as associate pastor in Mississippi churches.

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BR-1

Amy's Nanny Asks Carters' Congregation For Baptism

WASHINGTON (BP) — Mary Fitzpatrick, Amy Carter's Nanny rose from her seat next to President Carter and walked down the aisle of First Baptist Church here Sunday, March 20, to ask for baptism.

The congregation voted to recommend the 31-year-old black woman, who was convicted in 1970 for the slaying of a Georgia man, to the church membership committee on the basis of her statement of Christian faith. That action tantamount to her acceptance. She will be baptized by immersion at a later date. Mrs. Fitzpatrick, while Amy looked on, beaming and bouncing with excitement, made her way to the front of the sanctuary, even before the hymn of invitation began. She was greeted warmly by

the pastor, Charles A. Trentham, who told her: "Amy told me two Sundays ago, with great excitement, that you would be coming into our church."

She had attended Amy's baptism at First Baptist Church earlier this year and the President told Trentham at that time that Mrs. Fitzpatrick about her relationship to the church.

Mrs. Fitzpatrick was sent as a trustee to work at the Governor's Mansion in Atlanta in 1971. Carter was governor at the time, and she became Amy's Governess. She was released early from the Atlanta Women's Work Release Center, at the request of the Carters, so she could continue caring for Amy at the White House.

Second Avenue Calls File

Jerry E. File began his duties as pastor of Second Avenue Church in Laurel on March 13. He moved to the

Laurel church from Immanuel Church, Columbus, where he pastored for three and one-half years.

He is married to the former Helen Ruth Neely of Yazoo City, and they have two children, Jerry, Jr., 13, and Kimberly, 9.

He is a graduate of Hinds Junior College, Mississippi College, and Southwestern Seminary. He is completing his work on the Doctor of Ministry degree from New Orleans Seminary.

Denver, Colo. (BP) — First Southern Baptist Church here, an inner-city congregation housed in a former Jewish Temple, has voted to disband. The disbanding of the church came in the face of declining support from church members.

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Names In The News

Rita Maria Whitley, age 11, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Whitley of Calvary Church, Quitman, recently received a pin for nine years perfect attendance at Sunday School. This award was presented by Ray McKenzie, Sunday School director. H. D. Swindoll is pastor.



L. Craig Ratliff, pastor of University Church, Hattiesburg, is serving as an adjunct professor at Midwestern Seminary during April. Ratliff is teaching the course entitled, "Being the Church Today." Pastor of University Church since 1969, he is a graduate of Baylor University and Southern Seminary.



James P. and Dorothy Gilbert, missionaries to Ecuador, are now on furlough for a year in Mississippi. Their address is 1000 Lake Shore Drive, Apt. 13, Brandon, MS 39042.



Deborah McCarty of Pontotoc (right) is the newly elected president of the Student Government Association at Blue Mountain College for 1977-78. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. McCarty. Renalda Pharr of Belmont (left) is the newly elected president of the Baptist Student Union Council for the 105th annual session at BMC. She was a summer missionary in New York in 1976. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lamois C. Pharr.



Frank Gunn of Biloxi, (right) and Landrum Leavell, president of New Orleans Seminary, examine an Iron Age bowl, part of a collection of relics unearthed at the seminary's excavation site in Aphek, Israel and housed in the new Museum of Archaeology on the seminary campus. Gunn was in the Crescent City to attend the annual Board of Trustees meeting at the New Orleans Seminary. Dr. Gunn is a member of the Board and is currently the National Alumni President for the Seminary. The Trustees voted to adopt the largest budget in the seminary's history, \$3,006,000, and ordered construction begun on an athletic facility. (NOBTS PHOTO)



James and Zelma Foster, missionaries to the Philippines now on leave of absence, have moved from Greenwood to Natchez, where their new address is River Breeze Apartments, L-F, Natchez, MS 39120. He states that he is available to serve the Lord in supply preaching, pastoral or music work.



David Mark Worsham was recently licensed to the gospel ministry by Red Banks Church, Marshall County. He is a senior at Marshall Academy, Holly Springs, and plans to attend Blue Mountain College this fall. He now serves the Red Banks Church as minister of music. He is pictured with his father, Homer Worsham, pastor of the Red Banks Church, who presented him the Certificate of License.

Rev. and Mrs. Jack Nazary, Colonial Hills Church, Southaven, were honored by their church with a surprise reception following evening worship service on March 20 in celebration of his 11th anniversary as pastor.

James E. Duke, Wesson, is available for supply or interim pastorate. He has 12 years of fulltime pastoring and can be reached at 643-5226 after 4 p.m. or at 643-2795 during the day. His address is Route 2, Box 1, Wesson, MS 39191.

First Church of Richton has called Raymon Leake as pastor. Leake is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, and Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He is married to the former Gloria Campbell; they have two children.

TransCom Publications Receive Positive Response

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Positive response to the TransCom publications, the Woman's Missionary Union - produced curriculum for use with the unchurched in transitional communities, has echoed across the nation.

"I have been waiting a long time for this kind of material," Frank Broome, director of Christian social ministries in Northern Kentucky Association, wrote to Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of WMU, Auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention. Broome will use TransCom's Big "A" Club with inner city weekday programs

with children.

Metropolitan mission ministries secretary of Georgia, Henry K. Neal says, "I have been crying for Bible study materials to be used in weekday ministries."

Positive reactions are flowing with comments such as these: "Sounds as if it were designed for our needs." "I like what I see in Big 'A' Club plans." "It looks very good." "This looks interesting."

TransCom publications are the first Southern Baptist Bible study guides specially geared for people in missions

situations.

The publications include a teacher's quarterly, a resource kit, and a pupil's take home packet. They teach basic Bible concepts. They are specialized for children in transitional communities or in other mission action with children who have limited religious background.

Troy Prince, executive secretary of Alaska Baptist Convention comments, "This type of material is going to really be of assistance in helping to get work in the transitional communities off the ground."

Honduran Pastor Visits U. S.

By Anne McWilliams

It was summer when Dionisio Morales began his three-day walk to the Bible class at Puerto Lempira, Honduras. His heart was heavy and he thought his legs would fold beneath him as he walked. Only the day before he had made a casket and buried his nine-year-old son. He kept asking himself, "Why did the boy not tell me sooner that the snake had bitten him?" Not that he could have done more. Though there was a small hospital near Paptalaya where he was the Baptist pastor, there was no doctor on duty.

As he walked across the marshy land of the Mosquito Coast, the grieving father remembered how God had only one Son, and gave that Son. And he thought, "God left me three more sons, and three daughters."

Two years later Dionisio was in New Orleans waiting for his plane to Puerto Lempira. His flight was to leave at 12:34. He had been visitor for a month in Arkansas and Mississippi, his expenses to the States paid by the Northside Baptist Church, Star City, Arkansas, Lynn Gober, pastor. His friends, Jean and Charles Owen, former agricultural missionaries to Honduras, were now members of the Star City church. While in Star City he had been speaker for a Bible conference, with Owen as interpreter, and with Mickey and Terry Owen had presented spe-



Charles Owen and Morales.

cial music in Spanish. He had attended the annual meeting of the Agricultural Missions Foundation in Vicksburg and delivered greetings from the Baptists of Paptalaya.

As he waited for his plane his thoughts turned homeward. His church members had been meeting in a house, but he hoped to finish the new church building soon. Women of the church at Puerto Lempira had sent \$50 and some nails. With these, he and the men of Paptalaya were building a church with a thatched roof and a dirt floor. They had cut the boards for the walls by hand. Perhaps his brother, Abraham, also a pastor — at nearby Waxma — would help.

The son of a Moravian pastor, Dionisio at 46 has been a Christian for 20 years. When he felt called to

preach, he found no opportunity for that in the Moravian Church. He promised the Lord he would work anywhere He wanted him to preach the gospel. Not long afterward, Landon and Pat Wilkerson, Southern Baptists, independent missionaries, arrived at Puerto Lempira. Dionisio was one of the first to begin working with Landon, and the number of converts and the number of churches grew. The church at Paptalaya called him as pastor.

On the plane Dionisio opened his billfold and looked at the picture of his beautiful dark-haired wife and their six children. He would never forget this visit to the United States, but it would be good to be home again.



Lynn Gober with Dionisio Morales.

Sunday School Lesson: International For April 17

Jesus Assures His Disciples

By Wm. J. Fallis
Luke 24:13-35



Have you ever come to the end of a mystery — either play or novel — and wondered why the characters did not figure out the conclusion before the end? There were clues and hints here and there. But did you figure it out ahead of time, or did those clues become apparent only after you finished the story? It is easy

for Christians to wonder why the disciples did not expect Jesus to be resurrected. But would we have done any better in their time? After seeing his bloody body fall under the weight of the cross bar, hearing his cry of desolation in the darkness, and seeing the ugly wound of the spear in his side, would we have believed that he had left his tomb by Sunday morning? It is much easier to believe with the help of the Four Gospels and nineteen centuries of Christian affirmation.

The Lesson Explained
Two Disciples Of Emmaus
(vv. 13-17)

This story appears only in Luke's Gospel and tells of two unknown disciples who were walking from Jerusalem to the village of Emmaus seven miles away. It was the day of the resurrection, and they were talking about what had happened during the previous week. They were so interested in their conversation that they were not aware of Jesus until he caught up with them. Even then they were prevented from recognizing him. When he asked what they had been discussing, "they stood still, looking sad" (Weymouth) — a much better translation than the last six words in verse 17. They were both surprised and grieved.

Their Conversation With A Stranger
(vv. 18-27)

One of the disciples, Cleopas, responded quickly: "Are you the only man living in Jerusalem who does not know what has been happening there these last few days?" (TEV). When Jesus asked, "What things?" as though he knew nothing, the two men poured out the sad story of the prophet from Nazareth who was blessed of God and honored by the people and yet was renounced by the religious rulers and

allowed to be crucified. These two disciples — and probably others — had hoped that Jesus was the Messiah who would deliver them from Rome.

As if this wasn't enough some women had reported that Jesus' body was missing and that some angels said he was alive. Some of the disciples found the tomb empty as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus. Then their unknown companion rebuked them for being so slow in believing what the prophets had said. Perhaps "fools" is a little strong; other translations have "foolish" or "dullwitted" men. For so long had they studied the prophets and heard them interpreted in the synagogue; why had they not learned that it was

necessary for the Messiah to suffer and then enter into his glory? Then the Stranger began with the law of Moses (Pentateuch) and proceeded through the prophets, explaining the passages that referred to the Messiah.

Discovering The Risen Christ
(vv. 28-35)

As Jesus talked, the three men came to Emmaus, and the two disciples urged their unknown companion to spend the night with them. When they sat down for the evening meal, Jesus picked up the loaf of bread, blessed it, and then passed broken pieces to them. Suddenly they realized who he was — perhaps by his prayer or the way he served them. As soon as they

recognized him, Jesus disappeared. They wondered why they had not known him earlier because their hearts had glowed while he explained the Scriptures. Unconsciously they may have been reminded of the Master, but they were sure he was dead.

Perhaps after finishing their simple meal, they started back to Jerusalem. They had some news that would not keep. The report from the women was far more than wishful thinking. No matter who had or had not seen him, these two knew he was alive. When they found the eleven, they learned that the Lord had appeared to Simon. But they had their own story to tell: the Stranger on the way, his teaching, and their discovery as he broke the bread.

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work For April 17

Workers Together For Christ

Bill Duncan, Long Beach, First
Timothy 1:1-2; Acts 16:1-5;
Philippians 2:19-24

The study of I and II Timothy will be a great study for our churches. Although they are considered personal and private letters, they have a significance and relevance far beyond a merely personal reference. In I Timothy 3:15 the aim of these letters is set down. They are written "that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the Church of the living God." So as we study these series of letters, we will be determining what should be our conduct in the household of God.

These letters deal with the care and the organization of the church. They give instructions as to how God's house should be administered. They tell us what kind of people the leaders and pastors of the Church should be. They will tell us how to react to the threats which endanger the purity of the Christian faith and life.

Timothy was the young man whom Paul had found in the area of Derbe and Lystra in Asia Minor, and whom he had often taken with him on his var-

ious missionary journeys. The passage in Philippians 2:17-24 speaks eloquently of him. Paul had referred to Timothy's service as the service of a son with his father. The normal duty of a son is to obey his father and to serve him. But Paul does not say "he served me in the gospel" but the scriptures say that "he served with me." Thus the service was a joint service in the Lord. So the term "workers together for Christ" is rightly stated. Together they served the Lord.

In Acts 16:1-5, we learn that Timothy was circumcised because his mother had married a Greek and his mother was a Jew. The fact that his mother had married a Greek indicates that the family was little influenced by the narrow exclusiveness of the Pharisees.

Timothy had a fine Christian reputation, and Paul was eager to have him as an associate. It is a mark of greatness when an older man can recognize the promise of a younger one and form an association with him that is advantageous to both.

The book of I Timothy gives us the royal command. Why did Paul write the letter to Timothy. He was under the command of God. This was different from instructions that come from man. This was not a duty to be avoided, but a privilege to do the humblest task

for one he loved and respected.

The one who gave the command was called "our Saviour". Jesus is God our Saviour. He was God who so loved the world. We do not find this title for God in any other of the earlier letters. Yet it is historical in the Old Testament to call God Saviour. Mary said in Luke 1:46-47, "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour."

He then calls "Jesus Christ, our hope". Jesus gave to men the hope of moral victory and self-conquest. In the hope that nothing on earth could separate men from the love of God in Christ Jesus, men found the conquest of circumstances which the terrors of the age demanded. In Jesus Christ they had the hope over death. Christ our hope is the battle-cry of the church.

Paul calls Timothy his true Son. The word that he uses for true was the word that we call sterling as opposed to counterfeit and unreal.

Timothy was the man whom Paul could trust. Timothy was the man whom Paul could send anywhere, knowing that he could go and do a good job.

Then, they say that he was likened with Paul. The TEV says "He is the only one who shares my feelings and who really cares about you." (Phil 2:21).

Easter is past. For some it was a holiday and for others it was a holy day, for some an Easter bunny and for others a cross. For some it was a time to get away from it all. The beaches and the mountains called and these did answer. For others it was a time to come back to where it all began. The Spirit of God spoke and these were made to remember and rejoice. So it is today and, I suppose, so it shall ever be. As long as the world remains and man is left with the ability to choose for himself, he will continue to decide between the world's way and the way of the cross of Christ.

This passage of scripture deals with two men and their encounter with Jesus. This may have been their first encounter with Him or it may not have been. That is really unimportant here. What is important is the response of these men when faced with death and the one who would conquer death.

The Roman government was administering capital punishment to three convicted criminals. Three crosses were raised and three men were nailed to the crosses. A most awful death was soon to follow. Calvary was becoming a reality. History was being made. Prophecy was being fulfilled, and through the events that were transpiring all the world was being given a chance to choose between a physical or spiritual salvation.

Let's look at the two thieves. One was interested in the immediate release of his physical body. "If thou be the Christ, save thyself and us" (Verse 30), was his cry to Jesus. There was no faith in the Lord of Life exhibited here. We hear only the agonized cry of a desperate man to find relief for the moment. "If you are the Christ, get us down from here. I love the world, let me return to it again," he pleaded. "Deliver my physical body."

The other thief, a man in the very same circumstance, also sought relief and deliverance. He too spoke to Christ and asked for help, and it was here that the difference in the two men lay. This man recognized who it was that hung on the middle cross and somehow understood that Jesus could give him more than deliverance for just the moment. He too cried with the agony of a desperate man but his desperation was to gain the Kingdom of Heaven, not the things of this world. "Remember me when thou comest into thy Kingdom" (verse 42), was his earnest plea. "Deliver my soul."

We are still choosing between the world and the cross, and our choices are still determining our eternal destiny. An Easter bunny or a cross, a holiday or a holy day; which was it for you this year? Where will you spend eternity? Jesus said in John 3:6, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit." You must make the choice.

At Morrison Heights

Clebe McClary To Be Speaker For Christian Home Emphasis

Lt. Clebe McClary, Marine Viet Nam veteran, will be the keynote speaker at the Christian Home Emphasis at Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, La. and Mrs. McClary will speak at the evening worship service at 7:30 Sunday, April 17.

The Emphasis will continue Monday and Tuesday nights at 7:00, April 18 and 19. Speakers will include Mrs. Wilda Fancher, Jackson author,

mother of three, and wife of an evangelist; Wallace Carr, professor of pastoral care and counseling, Reformed Theological Seminary, Jackson; and Bailey Smith, pastor, First Church, Dell City, Oklahoma.

Special sessions for junior high youth through adults are planned. Children will meet in their choir groups.

The public is invited.